

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : A Lancaster County Brookie Stream

Re: A Lancaster County Brookie Stream

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URL:

Let's enlist Farmer Dave in an experiment in one the ponds on his estate. He will have to stock 500 trout and 500 chubs in the pond. Dave will fish it and catch 5 mature trout each week and keep them for a five-month period (20 weeks). He will release all chubs caught. Assuming both species are equally prolific, what would the makeup of population in the pond be in one year? Three years? Five years?

Actually, I did a paper on something similar to this as an undergraduate in college. I forget the exact details, but in a few short years the balance of the population was nearly completely skewed toward the species with the lower rate of predation. And I recall the rate to be only a 10% variance in the rate of predation in one species, such as the example above.

Just saying.....not possible??