

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Once again a wild BT population blossoms on a stocked trout stream

Re: Once again a wild BT population blossoms on a stocked trout stream

Author: : Fishidiot

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URL:

Again - this is good news. I'm certainly not trying to hijack this thread into another monster debate about stocking vs wild trout.

However, this particular case is worth talking about as I'm convinced stories like this aren't isolated. Wild trout populations are doing very well in central PA and for reasons I cannot begin to explain. I think what you're seeing here: a small stream with little if any change in management strategy goes from virtually no wild fish to Class A in a generation is not that unusual. Why did it improve so much? I can only speculate. Hopefully Mike will proffer an opinion on this. However, considering these findings, there's two ways to look at this:

1) That this stream demonstrates that we can have the best of both worlds; that stocking can continue on a presumably popular put and take fishery and, at the same time, wild trout can thrive in high numbers in that same waterway despite stocking and provide the sort of quality fishery most of us on this forum appreciate.

2) The other view is that a case like this - where wild trout suddenly emerge in good numbers in a stream section previously without them - is tailor made for the transition that was originally envisioned in Operation Future; that streams newly identified with Class A biomass should not be stocked because they don't need to be regardless of the "social" conditions surrounding the stream (ie. it was a popular put and take fishery with traditional anglers).

Of the two points of view above.....I lean in favor of "2" but recognize the reality of "1."