
Subject: : Conservation

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NW PA Stocking Over Wild Trout Survey Results

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Alright all, after a two hours with the PFGC web site and my gazeteer, here are the results of a survey of nine contiguous NW counties that are my stomping grounds (Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Lawrence, Butler, Venago, Clarion, Forrest, and Warren) regarding whether the PFBC stocks over wild trout streams.

First, as is stated by the PFGC, there is no stocking of class A wild trout stream SECTIONS.

However, of the 11 class A stream sections in these counties:

3 had stocked trout in directly adjacent sections. Two of these were class A brook trout streams had brown trout stocked directly adjacent in the same stream.

4 additional streams flowed into stocked water. One of these was a class A brook trout stream that flowed into a stocked brown stream.

So:

7/11 class A wild trout stream sections had directly adjacent stocked water.

3/3 class A brook trout streams had adjacent sections of river that held stocked browns.

In addition, 2 of the 6 "wilderness" trout streams, which are generally brook trout streams that are supposed to be afforded the highest protection, had brown trout stocked directly adjacent. However, I know one of these streams very well and there is a waterfall that serves as a natural barrier between stocked brown and non-stocked wild brook trout sections. This may be a factor in other "adjacent" sections.

So I can see why people have different perceptions of reality. Techniquely, no class A water is stocked, but a lot of adjacent water is.....

Comments?