

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Class A Wild Trout, Wilderness & WBT Enhancement Streams

Re: Class A Wild Trout, Wilderness & WBT Enhancement Streams

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URL:

I fish one WBT enhancement stream commonly, it was one of my home waters well before the regs, back when it was open water.

I'm not sure the study period is long enough to make a definitive conclusion, the population always spiked and fell.

But my observations are this: The regs were harmful to the stream in the lower areas within about a mile of where the road crosses it. The stream was open to bait fishing before, general regs, but it rarely got fished. Now it gets fished pretty heavy down there and there aren't as many trout. But walk in 1+ miles and its had no effect whatsoever.

Before Jack has a fit, I do still support the regulations. It's introducing more people to brook trout fishing, and those people become more responsible towards trout as a result, which has to have positive impacts on other fisheries. These streams breed more responsible fishermen than truck chaser streams, so promoting them is a good thing. And there's plenty of identical streams nearby, still with general regulations, where the fishing is every bit as good.

The stream population is not class A, and never was, but its gotta be close as when conditions are right, 10-20 fish is pretty normal.

On brookie streams, and there are exceptions, my impression is that they are fragile, but the fishing pressure is so low it doesn't even begin to get to the point where it endangers the population. On some of them, my once or twice a year visits might make up half of the angler hours the stream sees.