

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

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

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

Author: : JackM

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URL:

How is it that brook trout are "easily broken or destroyed?" I think anyone using that term to describe brook trout is misusing the terminology to satisfy or really determine the conclusion that they have already made that some form of "protection" is required to preserve them. So, if you want to describe them as "fragile" and stretch the term to cover the fact that they are high-temperature intolerant or susceptible to harm from siltation or even from extremely highly acidic water chemistry, then be my guest, but then, for the argument from such a premise to any conclusion of regulations to follow logically, the proposed regulations should be addressing only the harms described-- temperature, siltation and acidity. Tackle restrictions and harvest have no relevance.

On the flip-side, then, if you want to support regulations on tackle and harvest, you are going to have to claim that brookies are "easily broken or destroyed" because of these supposed harms, and that cannot be proven. In fact, all the evidence points to the conclusion that harvest and tackle issues have very little effect on brook trout populations.

I do favor the control conditions you recommend (some streams with no fishing at all, some with tackle restrictions, some with no-harvest) because I believe it would put these ill-supported conceptions of wild brook trout fragility to rest for good.