

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Relief From Rhododendron

Re: Relief From Rhododendron

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URL:

> I think that in part is the reason for removing vegetation in Wisconsin streams, the anglers prefer alien trout above natives. Maybe I'm wrong.>

Well, you're right about being wrong...:)

They do it to discourage beavers. They also do it (in a process I don't fully understand) to open the water to more sunlight to allow certain processes to occur that enhance the forage base. Many Wisconsin streams have a low diversity of invertebrates despite usually having strong populations of the ones that are there. And, on occasion, they also do it to allow better angler access.

As I understand it, the reason they can do this (and mind you, it isn't done much at all. Out of about 100 streams I've fished there, I've seen brushing take place on maybe 6 or 8) and get away with it is that by and large, by virtue of their smaller size and larger number of spring inputs compared to PA limestones, the thermal effects of this brushing are pretty minimal.

In any event, none of this is done to blaspheme brook trout. Actually, there is a big push on right now to restore brook trout in a lot of the streams of the Driftless Region.