

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Stocking Trout Over Wild Fish

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Some people believe that stocking trout over stream born trout is bad because it deminishes the stream born trout population. The theory behind this belief is that stream born trout can't compete for food with the stocked trout.

My question is, would stocking fingerling trout rather than adult trout lessen the impact on the stream born fish?

I know that not stocking over any wild trout is the ideal solution. But, that is never going to happen. I think that stocking fingerlings, especially ones that are the same variety as the wild fish, would have less of an impact because of there smaller size. Since they would be spending most of there life in the stream, they probably wouldn't grow any larger than the stream born trout would. Also, there behavior would be very close to that of the wild fish.

TYoung