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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : "wild" rainbows

Re: "wild" rainbows

Author: : afishinado

Date: : 2009/7/2 7:32:39

URL:

Jack,

From what I've read on the subject, the juvenile brook trout, at least the first year grow at a slightly faster rate than the brown trout the first year by a few mm. After that their growth rates are close to even. I think the real factor though in the size of both species as adult fish is not really growth rate but life span. The brooks have a short 3-4 year life span and rarely have a chance to grow very large.

How 'bout this? I've fished in many waters, both fertile and infertile, that held both browns and brookies, and I have never seen the average brookie size equal or exceed the average brown trout size in those waters. I'm including all PA waters I fished, many streams and river in the northeast states, and also many of the waters I fished out-west. Has anyone on this board fished a stream where wild brookies and browns shared the stream, where the average size of the brookies were as big or bigger than the brownies?

Also, as many have posted, the records for the largest brook trout and brown trout caught everywhere I am aware back this up.

PS - I just read this about a new NY State record brook trout - 21" / 5lbs 4oz. Records in NY date back into the early 1800's according to the article.

[http://www.pressconnects.com/article/ ... out+caught+in+Adirondacks](http://www.pressconnects.com/article/...out+caught+in+Adirondacks)

Just to give you a comparison, I have been fortunate enough to catch quite a few brown trout that size or bigger. A 21" brown caught on the Delaware River would hardly raise an eyebrow and just get a "nice fish" acknowledgment from a fellow fisherman while you released it. BTW, brookies are present in the great habitat of D River.