

Tabled Item: Addition of Plum Creek and Halter Creek to the Class A Wild Trout Waters List.

At the September 2005 Fisheries Committee meeting, an agenda item pertaining to this issue was discussed, as reflected in the attached minutes, and the Committee recommended that the Commission postpone consideration of this item until the January 2006 meeting. There was discussion among the Committee members that the Commission postpone consideration of the item to allow staff to meet with Department of Environmental Protection staff and until such time as a new Commissioner is assigned to the fourth district. At the full Commission meeting on September 27, 2005, the Commission tabled the agenda item.

After the September meeting, the following took place. Staff published a notice of proposed designation for the third time in the Pennsylvania Bulletin at 35 Pa. B. 6716 (December 10, 2005). As of the date of the preparation of the January 2006 agenda, the Commission received four public comments. One comment submitted prior to the official comment period supports the addition of Plum and Halter Creeks to the Class A list. During the formal public comment period, the Commission received three comments – one supporting the additions to the list and two expressing concerns over potential impacts to local industry, municipalities and farmers. Copies of all public comments have been provided to the Commissioners.

Staff also have been in contact with staff from the Department of Environmental Protection and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and have participated in a number of meetings. On January 3, 2006, staff met with Senator Jubelirer and John Giannelli and David Adkinson of his staff. Another meeting was held on January 10, 2006 among Commission staff, DEP staff, Representative Stern, John Giannelli and members of the regulated community and their counsel.