

## Notice Removal of Certain Refuge Areas

Under 58 Pa. Code §67.2 (relating to refuge areas), the Executive Director of the Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), with the approval of the Commission, may designate waters as refuge areas to which section 2306 of the Fish and Boat Code, 30 Pa. C.S. §2306 (relating to refuge areas), shall apply. Section 2306 provides that the Commission may set aside, in its discretion, such areas as it may judge best as refuge areas in which fishing or entry shall be prohibited for such periods of time as the Commission prescribes. According to the regulation, the designation of waters as refuge areas shall be effective upon posting of the waters after publication of a notice that the waters have been so designated in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Refuge areas are closed to public fishing except during the period from June 15 until the last day of February of the following year. It is unlawful to disturb fish or other aquatic life in refuge areas by any means, including wading, throwing stones, rocks or other objects or otherwise agitating the waters. The regulation will not be construed to prohibit fishing in such areas during the extended trout season.

Based on current conditions, there are reasons to remove the refuge area designation from 18 streams. For example, some streams are no longer being maintained as marked refuge areas, some streams are no longer stocked with trout and some streams are simply not being well utilized by anglers. These conditions are inconsistent with the premise for the use of refuge areas. Therefore, the Commission removed the refuge area designations from the sections of the following waters that have been so designated for the following reasons, consistent with its notice published at 40 Pa. B. 3029 (June 5, 2010):

County	Water Area	Rationale for Removal
Cambria/Clearfield	Chest Creek	No marked refuge areas
Clearfield	Little Clearfield Creek	No marked refuge areas
Clearfield	Gifford Run	No marked refuge areas
Clearfield	Mosquito Creek	Unstocked water

County	Water Area	Rationale for Removal
Elk	Bear Creek	Low use of refuge areas
Elk	Big Mill Creek	Low use of refuge areas
Elk/McKean	Wilson Run	Low use of refuge areas
Forest	Bluejay Creek	No marked refuge areas
Luzerne/Wyoming	Bowman Creek	No marked refuge areas
Lycoming	White Deer Hole Creek	Low use of refuge areas
McKean	Combs Creek	Low use of refuge areas
McKean	East Branch Tunungwant Creek	Unstocked water
McKean	Lewis Run	Unstocked water
Monroe	Tobyhanna Creek	No marked refuge areas
Snyder	Swift Run	Low use of refuge areas
Schuylkill	Little Schuylkill River	No marked refuge areas
Warren	Farnsworth Branch	No marked refuge areas
Warren	West Branch Tionesta Creek	No marked refuge areas

The sections of the following waters that have designated as refuge areas will remain in the program so long as they are maintained by a local sponsor. Any refuge areas that are not maintained by a local sponsor in the future will be proposed for removal at a later date.

County	Water Area
Cameron	Hicks Run
Cameron	Mix Run
Cameron	Upper Jerry Run
Cameron	Wykoff Run
Clearfield	Jack Dent Branch
Elk	Medix Run
McKean	Chappel Fork
McKean	Kinzua Creek
McKean	Kinzua Creek, South Branch
McKean	Skinner Creek
McKean	Sugar Run
McKean	Sugar Run, North Branch
McKean	Tionesta Creek, East Branch
McKean	Two Mile Run
McKean	Willow Creek
McKean	Wilson Run
Warren	Two Mile Run

FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION:

John A. Arway  
Executive Director