



photo-Spring Gearhart

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Adult Trout Stocking Program Changes

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In 2023, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is stocking approximately 3.2 million adult trout in waters of the Commonwealth open to public fishing. Stocked adult trout produced by Commission hatcheries average 11 inches long.

Changes for the 2023 trout season include extensions of stocked stream sections and the addition, reinstatement, or removal of waters to the stocking program. Anglers will continue to see a reduction in the number of Brook Trout stocked throughout the Commonwealth. Commission hatcheries shifted production to more Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout to optimize the quality of stocked trout fishing in Pennsylvania in support of innovative stocking and management strategies.

Additional information regarding Pennsylvania trout fishing opportunities is detailed on the Commission's website at fishandboat.com.

Stocking extensions and waters added or reinstated to the stocking program

Each year, the PFBC adjusts its adult stocking program. A waterway may be added, extended, reinstated, or removed depending on existing or pending changes to angler access, changes to destinations on streams managed for wild trout populations, water quality issues that may threaten the survival of stocked trout, and maintenance performed on dams and other infrastructure that change water level and flow.

Kinzua Creek, McKean County

A fall stocking will be added to the 4.7-mile section of stream managed under Delayed Harvest Artificial



Photo: George Daniel

Lures Only (DHALO) regulations, extending from the Guffey Road bridge downstream to the Allegheny National Forest boundary near Westline. Formerly, this water was stocked on a preseason and inseason only basis.

Pine Creek, Tioga County

A fall stocking will be added to the 3.3-mile section of stream managed under DHALO regulations, extending from Marsh Creek downstream to Bear Run. Formerly, this water was stocked on a preseason and inseason only basis.

South Branch Tunkhannock Creek, Lackawanna and Wyoming counties

A fall stocking will be added to the .99-mile section of stream managed under DHALO regulations, extending from State Route 6 downstream through the Keystone College campus. Formerly, this water had been stocked on a preseason and inseason only basis.

Waters removed from the stocking program

When survey data suggests that a waterway is no longer suitable for adult trout stocking based on a loss of angler access, environmental factors, or designation as a Class A wild trout stream, the Commission makes every attempt to reallocate fish to a comparable location nearby. When inadequate

angler access is the reason for a removal, locations are monitored for improvement, so the waters can be considered for reinstatement to the stocking program if access is improved.

Childrens Lake, Cumberland County

This 8.9-acre lake will be removed from the trout stocking program during complete drawdown of the lake to allow for maintenance and repairs to the dam. Maintenance and repairs are scheduled to be completed in 2023, and the lake will be reinstated to the trout stocking program once conditions allow following refill.

Neshannock Creek, Lawrence and Mercer counties

A decrease in stream access has stopped trout stocking from a 3.6-mile section of stream extending from the Interstate 80 (I-80) bridge downstream to the Cannery Road bridge. The remaining sections of the stream, from the headwaters downstream to the I-80 bridge and from the Cannery Road bridge downstream to the mouth will continue to be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

Seven Mountains Boy Scout Pond, Centre County

This 2.5-acre pond will be removed from the adult trout stocking program during drawdown of the pond to allow for maintenance and repairs to the dam and spillway. Maintenance and repairs are scheduled to be completed in 2023, and the pond will be reinstated to the trout stocking program once conditions allow following refill. ☐