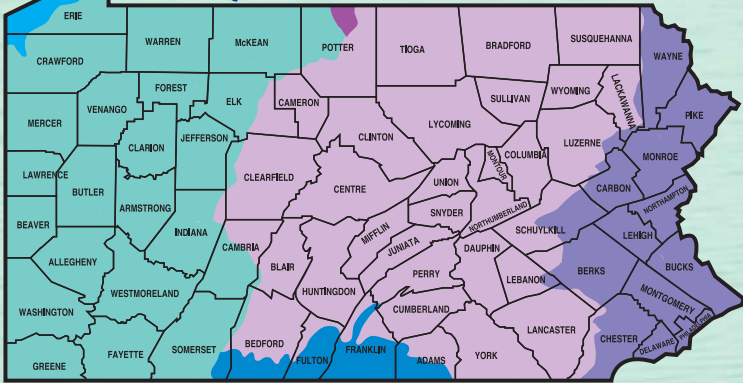


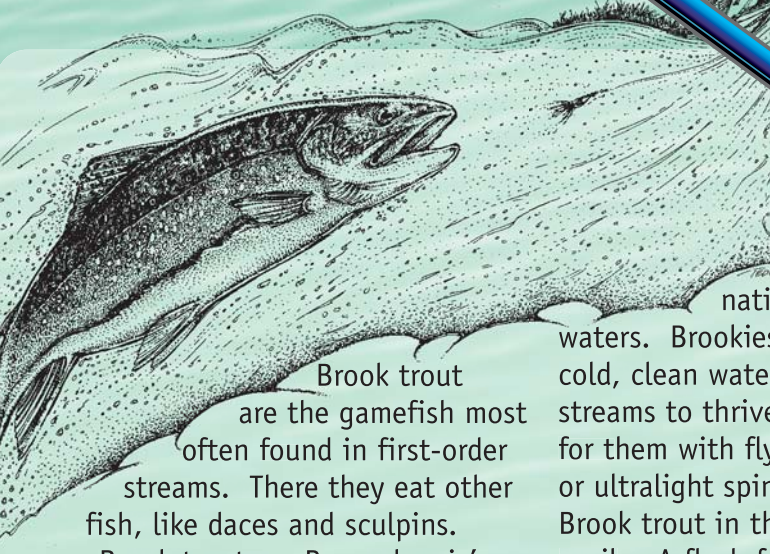
Pennsylvania Watersheds



All moving water starts from a source—a spring, pond, lake, snowmelt or rainwater. Water drains from a watershed by way of a system of streams and rivers. The small streams at the beginning have no tributaries and are called **first-order streams**. Small first-order streams flow into other streams and form **second-order streams**. Two second-order streams combine into **third-order streams**. And so it goes until the water reaches the ocean!

FIRST-ORDER STREAMS

These waterways are the smallest streams because they have no tributaries. They may originate from springs, or just many trickles of groundwater running together. Many times they are small enough to jump across! Many first-order streams are clean, clear and cold. Often they run through forested areas. First-order streams are sometimes very rocky because they are often found high on mountains or because they flow down steep slopes.



Focus on Fishing



Brook trout are the gamefish most often found in first-order streams. There they eat other fish, like daces and sculpins. Brook trout are Pennsylvania's state fish and the only trout

native to inland waters. Brookies require the cold, clean water in first-order streams to thrive. Anglers fish for them with fly-fishing tackle or ultralight spinning gear. Brook trout in these waters spook easily. A flash from a rod or careless steps send them running for

cover. Stay low and sneak along the stream bank when fishing these waters. Natural baits like worms, crickets, waxworms and mealworms are great for brook trout. Dry flies and small spinners work on some of the larger ones.