

2002 Catchable-Trout Stocking Program Changes

by Tom Greene

Beginning this season, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission will produce approximately 3.8 million adult trout for distribution in the waters of the Commonwealth. In comparison with past practice, this figure represents a reduction of about 1.4 million trout from the 5.2 million or so stocked in 2001.

Pennsylvania's state fish culture stations are currently faced with challenges related to both water quantity and water quality. To take prompt action to address these issues, it was necessary at least temporarily to reduce the number of adult trout produced in our state hatcheries and stocked in state waters open to free public fishing.

As part of this change, Commission fisheries managers have worked closely with law enforcement and other staff to develop a plan to reallocate the stocking of hatchery trout for the 2002 season and beyond. The foundation of the Commission's stocked trout program is based on the classification of waters by resource-based fisheries management considerations. Under this method of allocating trout, the number of trout stocked in a stream or lake is determined by neutral and consistent factors that are applied on a statewide basis. For example, when two waters share the same characteristics, they are stocked at the same rate (number of trout per water acre) regardless of their location, county or municipality. The resource-based system of allocating stocked trout considers biological, physical and social factors in determining stocking rates. These include abundance of wild trout, recreational use potential (nearness to a road, amount of public ownership and the amount of posting), the size of waters stocked (width of the stream) and human population density.

With the reduction of 1.4 million trout from the statewide production system, most stocked waters will have a decrease in the stocking rate and the frequency of stocking for the 2002 season. Stocking rate reductions (totaling about 1.23 million trout) will account for the vast majority of the necessary 1.4-million trout reduction in the stocking program. This will be accomplished by changing the stocking rates under the statewide allocation formulas. The remainder of the reduction (172,000 trout) will occur through the removal of specific waters from the statewide stocking program.



As with past practice, changes for the 2002 season will include the addition of new water areas, some expansions to currently stocked waters, and the removal of several waters from the stocking program.

New waters

For the 2002 season, new-water additions consist of three previously stocked waters that return to the stocking program as a result of completed dam maintenance repair and a landowner agreement to provide public angling.

Cloe Lake, Jefferson County. Following a two-year period of drawdown for dam maintenance and repairs, this 25.5-acre lake is expected to be available for trout angling for the 2002 season. If the water levels are restored according to schedule, the lake will receive a preseason and an inseason stocking of brown and rainbow trout.

Harvey Creek, Luzerne County. As part of an agreement between the Commission and Theta Land Corporation, a 1.5-mile stream section extending from T-812 (Jackson Road) downstream to T-497 (Pavlick Road) will be reopened to public angling for the 2002 season. As with past practice, this section of stream will be managed under the Delayed-Harvest, Artificial-Lures-Only program and will receive a preseason and one inseason stocking of brook, brown and rainbow trout.

Roaring Brook, Lackawanna County. The stream section from the dam at Elmhurst Reservoir downstream for a distance of 2.0 miles will also be reopened to public angling for 2002 as part of the agreement between the Commission and Theta Land Corporation. This stream section will be stocked preseason and inseason with brook, brown and rainbow trout.

Expansions to current waters

Changes in classification and/or stocking limit extensions have led to an increase in the stocking program on the following waters for the 2002 season:

Antietam Lake	Berks County
Appenzell Creek	Monroe County
Asaph Run	Tioga County
Bear Creek	Schuylkill County

Bowery Run	Lancaster County
Bradford Reservoir #3	McKean County
Briar Creek Lake	Columbia County
Brush Creek-Little	Fulton County
Childrens Lake	Cumberland County
Conestoga Creek, Little-West Branch	Lancaster County
Deer Creek	York County
Deer Creek-North	Mercer County
Doubling Gap Lake	Cumberland County
Goss Run Dam	Clearfield County
Halfway Lake	Union County
Harvey Creek	Luzerne County
Hickory Run Lake	Carbon County
Hoffman Run	Elk County
Indian Lake	Westmoreland County
Janesville Dam	Clearfield County
Jones Creek	Wayne County
Kooser Lake	Somerset County
Lake Creek	Monroe County
Lake Loch Lomond	Pike County
Lake Took-A-While	Luzerne County
Lily Pond	Pike County
Lions Lake	Lebanon County
Loch Alsh Reservoir	Montgomery County
Mahoning Creek	Carbon County
Marquette Lake	Lebanon County
Middletown Reservoir	Dauphin County
Mountain Creek	Fayette County
Muddy Creek	York County
Muddy Creek-North Branch	York County
Muddy Creek-South Branch	York County
Princess Run	Monroe County
Rattling Creek-West Branch	Dauphin County
Saucon Creek-South Branch	Lehigh County
Sheppard Myers Dam	York County
Snow Hill Dam	Monroe County
Sugar Run-North Branch	McKean County
Tannery Dam	Clearfield County
Tobyhanna Lake	Monroe County
Twin Lakes	Elk County
Upper Gravel Pit	Erie County
Van Auken Creek	Wayne County
Wallenpaupack Creek-West Branch	Wayne County
Waterworks Ponds	Erie County
Zerbe Twp Rod & Gun Club Pond	Northumberland County

Early warning waters

About 172,000 fewer adult trout will be stocked because specific waters have been removed from the stocking program. Overall, 144 stream sections will be removed from the stocking program. The reasons for removing these waters are as follows: Sufficient wild trout populations where stocking is not necessary (47 sections), small allocations fewer than the 300-trout minimum plant size (44 sections), poor access and posting (25 sections), small stream size or location problems

(10 sections), low angler use (10 sections) and poor water quality (8 sections).

In addition, 8 lakes will be removed from the stocking program. The reasons for removing these lakes include: Access, habitat and or posting problems (2 lakes), privately owned lakes that are too small to justify the continuation of stocking in a time of reduced allocations (3 lakes), and lake drainage for maintenance repairs (3 lakes).

Waters that will be removed from the stocking program beginning with the 2002 season are as follows:

Allegheny River	Potter County*
Allen Creek	Somerset County
Angelica Lake	Berks County
Antietam Creek-West Branch	Franklin County*
Aquashicola Creek	Carbon & Monroe counties*
Asaph Run-Left	Tioga County
Bailey Run	Potter County
Barnetts Run	Fulton County
Bear Creek-Big (01)	Carbon County
Bear Creek-Big (02)	Carbon County
Bear Run	Elk County
Beaver Run	Chester County
Beaver Run	Clearfield County
Beaver Run	Columbia County
Beaver Rod & Gun Club Dam	Bedford County
Beaverdam Creek	Bedford County*
Beaverdam Run	Cambria County
Belmouth Run	Elk County
Bender Run	Cambria County
Bennett Branch-South Branch	Clearfield County
Big Run	Elk County
Big Run	Juniata County
Black Bear Run	Centre County
Black Creek	Sullivan County
Black Hole Creek	Lycoming County
Blacks Creek	Tioga County
Blue Hole Creek	Somerset County
Bobs Creek	Bedford & Blair counties*
Boggy Run	Elk County
Boy Scout Dam	Centre County
Briar Creek-West Branch	Columbia County
Buckwha Creek	Monroe County*
Buffalo Creek-North Branch	Union County
Caldwell Creek	Crawford & Warren counties*
Campbell Run	Franklin County
Chaney Run	Fayette County
Chester Creek, East Branch	Delaware County*
Cold Stream	Centre County
Colegrove Brook	McKean County
Cooks Run	Clinton County
Corey Creek	Tioga County
Cowans Gap Lake	Fulton County
Cub Run	Somerset County
Dicks Run	Centre County
Dotters Creek	Monroe County

Drakes Creek Carbon County
 Fall Creek Somerset County
 Fishing Creek Clinton County*
 Five Forks Creek Franklin County
 Fourth Run Carbon County
 Furnace Run York County
 Garner Run Huntingdon County
 Glade Run Somerset County
 Green Spring Creek Cumberland County*
 Hannas Run Westmoreland County
 Harvey Creek Luzerne County*
 Hemlock Run Warren County
 Hicks Run-West Branch Cameron & Elk counties
 Holberts Creek (Roots Creek) Wayne County
 Hollister Creek Wayne County
 Hunter Creek Carbon County
 Hyner Run-Left Clinton County
 Imlertown Run Bedford County
 Jack Dent Branch Clearfield County
 Jerry Run-Upper Cameron County
 Kase Branch Montour County
 Kings Creek Sullivan County
 Kishacoquillas Creek Mifflin County*
 Lackawaxen River-West Branch Wayne County*
 Laurel Run Cambria County
 Laurel Run Centre County
 Lehigh Creek-Little (02) Berks & Lehigh counties*
 Lehigh Creek-Little (07) Lehigh County*
 Licking Creek-West (02) Huntingdon & Mifflin counties
 Licking Creek-West (03) Huntingdon County
 Lily Pond Pike County
 Long Run Clinton County
 Marsh Creek Centre County*
 Mauses Creek Montour County
 McMurray Run Butler County
 Mehoopany Creek Wyoming County*
 Middle Fork Elk County
 Mill Creek (trib to Schuylkill River) Berks County*
 Mill Creek (trib to Swatara Creek-Little) Berks County
 Mill Creek Mercer County
 Mill Creek-West Tioga County
 Millstone Creek Bradford County
 Mix Run Cameron County*
 Mountain Branch Centre County
 Mountain Creek Cumberland County*
 Muddy Run Franklin County
 Muddy Run-Little Clearfield County*
 Nine Partners Creek Susquehanna County
 Paddy Run Clinton County
 Penns Creek Centre County*
 Pine Creek-South Fork-North Branch Armstrong County
 Piney Creek-Little Somerset County
 Pocono Creek Monroe County
 Poe Creek Centre County*
 Rattling Creek-East Branch Dauphin County
 Rauchtown Creek Clinton County

Repine Run Indiana County
 Rexmont Dam #1 Lebanon County
 Riggles Gap Run Blair County
 Roaring Brook Lycoming & Tioga counties
 Roaring Run Fulton County
 Roaring Run Westmoreland County
 Rock Run Sullivan & Lycoming counties
 Rocky Run Elk County
 Sawmill Run Clearfield County
 Sawmill Run York County
 Schrader Creek-Little Bradford County
 Seeley Creek Bradford & Tioga counties
 Shaeffer Run Perry County
 Shafer Run Somerset County
 Shannon Run Westmoreland County
 Shehawken Creek Wayne County
 Sherman Creek Perry County*
 Sixmile Run Centre County*
 Sixmile Run Warren County
 Skinner Creek McKean County*
 Slate Lick Run Cambria County
 Smoky Run Rod & Gun Club Pond Blair County
 Spring Brook Lackawanna County
 Spring Creek-East Branch Warren County
 Standing Stone Creek Huntingdon County*
 Stony Creek Carbon County
 Straight Creek Elk County
 Sugar Creek-East Branch Venango County*
 Sugar Run Creek Bradford County
 Sylvan Lake Luzerne County
 The Branch Forest County*
 Three Springs Creek Bedford County
 Toms Run York County
 Town Run Mifflin County
 Trout Run Lancaster County
 Trout Run Lycoming County
 Tucquan Creek Lancaster County
 Unnamed Tributary to Pine Creek Berks County
 Valley Creek-West Chester County*
 Vanscoyoc Run Blair County
 Walburn Run Jefferson County
 Wallis Run Lycoming County
 Waltz Creek Northampton County
 Wards Ranch Pond Forest County
 West Creek Columbia County
 White Deer Creek Centre County*
 White Deer Creek Union County*
 Whitney Run Warren County
 Wolf Creek-North Branch Mercer County
 Wolf Run Centre County
 Wrights Creek Luzerne County
 Wyalusing Creek-Middle Branch Susquehanna County
 Yellow Breeches Creek Cumberland County*
 Young Womans Creek Clinton County*;
 Young Womans Creek-Left Branch Clinton County*

*Denotes stream that has at least one other section that will continue to be stocked.