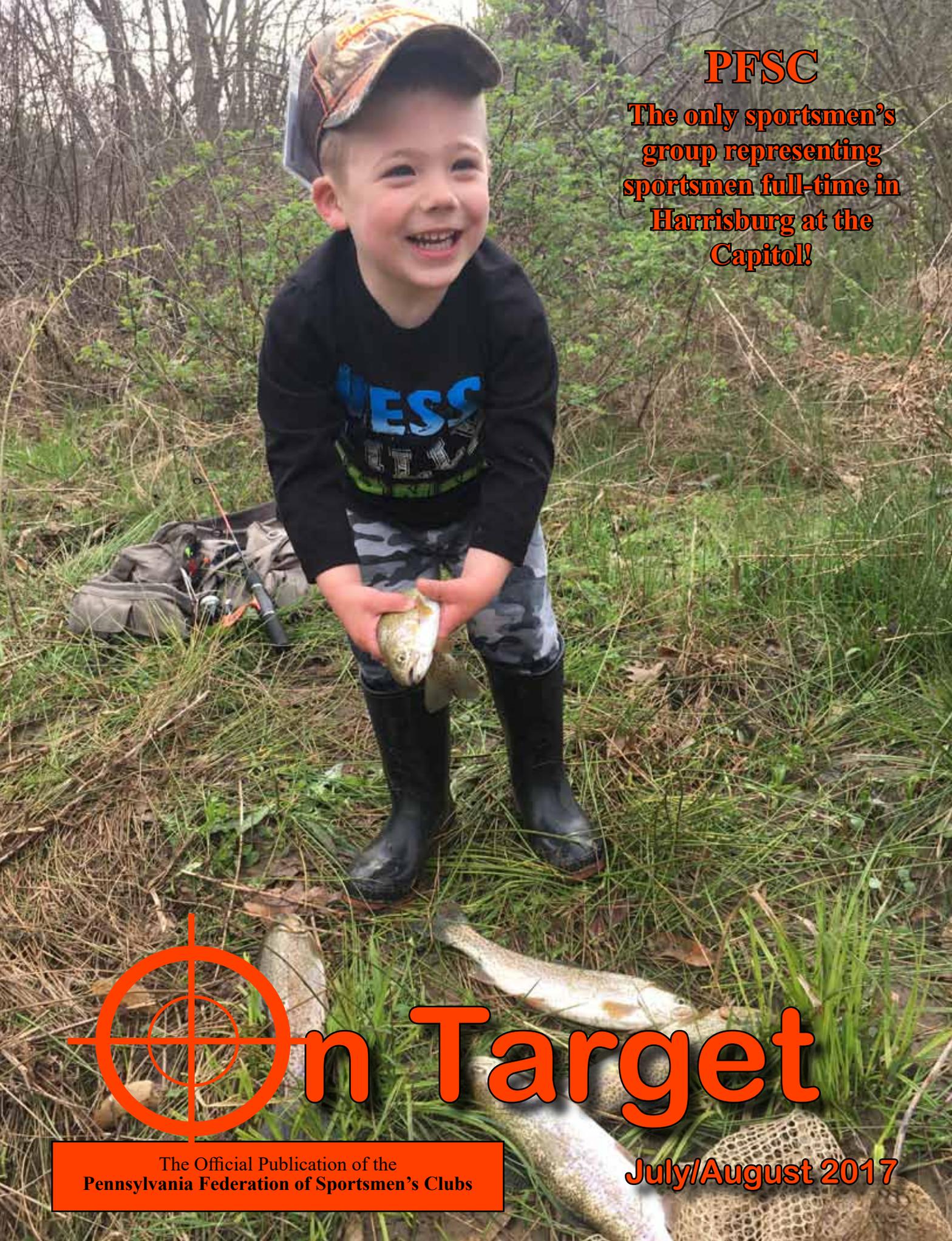


PFSC

**The only sportsmen's
group representing
sportsmen full-time in
Harrisburg at the
Capitol!**



On Target

The Official Publication of the
Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

July/August 2017



n Target

PFSC On Target

July/August 2017

PFSC Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Denny Fillmore
Cumberland County

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Lombaerde
Pike County

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Michele Kittel
Columbia County

TREASURER

Paula Piatt

SECRETARY

Mike Zenzel
Columbia County

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

John Ord
Susquehanna County

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Mary Hosmer
Elk County

STATE WIDE ORGANIZATIONS

PA Chapter NWTF

Don Williams

PA Trappers Association

Brian Mohn

Pheasants Forever

Chet Krcl

United Bowhunters of PA

Mike Foust

PA Flyers Association

Allan Roberts

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Lowell Graybill
Lancaster County

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Lou Brandenburg
Washington County

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

Mike Topping
Northampton County

SOUTHCENTRAL DIVISION

Vacant

NORTHWEST DIVISION

Mark Crabb
Crawford County

NORTHCENTRAL DIVISION

Phil Labant
Elk County

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Dennis Mingus
Wyoming County

CENTRAL DIVISION

Gary Lewis
Montour County

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT

AFFAIRS

John Kline

PFSC OFFICE MANAGER

Susan Hughes

The official registration and financial information of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. (PFSC)

2426 North Second St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

717-232-3480

fax: 717-231-3524

info@pfsc.org

www.pfsc.org

Editor

Melody Schell
editor@pfsc.org

On Target, the official publication of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc., is published 6 times a year, and distributed to all PFSC affiliated club Presidents, Secretaries, and Delegates from each affiliated club, and individual members. For club or individual membership information, contact PFSC as listed above.

PFSC is one of Pennsylvania's oldest and largest conservation organizations, formed in 1932.

PFSC welcomes stories, art, and photographic contributions. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited proposals, manuscripts, art, or photographs.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to PFSC at the above address, phone number, or email.

In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, any copyrighted work in this publication is distributed under fair use without profit or payment to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving this information for non-profit research and educational purposes only.

© Copyright 2017. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced without written permission from PFSC. **Ads and individual writer's views may not necessarily represent the mission or views of PFSC.**

The mission of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. is to provide a statewide, united voice for the concerns of all sportsmen and conservationists; to insure that their rights and interests are protected; and to protect and enhance the environment and our natural resources.

Cover Photo:

2 1/2 year old Eric Piper fishing on Bonniebrook Creek in Butler County with his dad Clay. He limited out by 8:45am. Robb Piper, Cambria Co., is his proud grandpa.



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Report

John A. Arway, Executive Director

www.fishandboat.com



Pennsylvania Wild Trout Summit

Pennsylvania has a wealth of trout fishing opportunities. Most anglers are familiar with the PA Fish and Boat Commission's stocked trout program which provides approximately 3.2 million adult, catchable-size trout each year to 127 lakes and 4,677 miles of streams throughout the state. In addition, the volunteer Cooperative Nursery Program adds another one million catchable size trout to the mix. Don't forget that one million fingerlings are also stocked each year to provide put-grow-and take or catch and release fishing opportunities. Of course, we also have Lake Erie and its Pennsylvania tributaries where another one million steelhead rainbow trout are stocked per year along with up to 70,000 brown trout.

These programs and numbers are well known among dedicated Pennsylvania Anglers. However, how many anglers can rattle off the statistics on Pennsylvania's wild trout resources? They are even more impressive.

Did you know that the PFBC staff

have sampled and our Board have designated 14,412 miles of wild trout streams of which 1,958 miles are Class A water which we refer to as "the best of the best"? When all upstream tributaries in these wild trout stream watersheds are included, there are 34,170 miles of streams in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which have been designated by the PFBC and are protected by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as wild trout streams.

Pennsylvania's wild trout streams range in size from small brooks you can literally jump across to the longest undammed river east of the Mississippi River, the Upper Delaware River. Native Brook Trout and naturalized, reproducing populations of Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout make up our wild fisheries.

Many of our larger wild trout streams such as Penns Creek, Big Spring Creek, the Little Juniata River, the Upper Delaware River, Spring Creek, Big Fishing Creek, Letort Spring Run, Spruce Creek, Falling Spring Creek, the Little Lehigh Creek are nationally and internationally known and are true destination waters.

In my Straight Talk Article in the March/April 2017 issue of the PA Angler and Boater Magazine, I included a table comparing the trout per mile of several, well-known Pennsylvania's wild trout waters with a number of nationally-known western trout rivers. Our wild trout streams compared very favorably ranging in density of 500 to 4,500 trout per mile.



Mark Nale Photo

Combining the Pennsylvania's stream miles containing wild trout with our large number of stocked trout waters, it is clear the Keystone State offers a wide variety of trout fishing opportunities and truly something for every type of trout angler.

To help people understand the significance of our wild trout resources and bring new attention to wild trout management in Pennsylvania, the PFBC is planning a Wild Trout Summit to be held at the PFBC's new Centre Region Office Building at 595 East Rolling Ridge Drive in Bellefonte, PA. The date will be Saturday August 26, 2017 and while the agenda is still being developed, we expect it to run from 9 am to 4 pm.

The program will be a combination of looking at the past, present and future of wild trout management in Pennsylvania with a significant emphasis on the future. Issues such as climate change and warming trout streams, increased societal demand for water, trout genetic considerations, continued natural gas development and new pipeline crossings will all shape the future of Pennsylvania's wild trout fisheries and will be discussed.

Speakers are expected to include staff from the PFBC, Trout Unlimited, U.S. Fish and Wildlife



12 inch native brook trout John caught and released in Fishing Creek, Clinton County on opening day of the 2017 trout season.

16 PFSC On Target

July/August 2017

Service, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and university wild trout researchers.

It is our hope that this event will help to characterize the past and present of wild trout management in Pennsylvania and bring new focus on the

future. We hope to use this forum as a way to not only highlight our vast wild trout resources but also focus on the issues and challenges that Pennsylvania's wild trout will face in the years ahead.

Additional information will be

forthcoming as the event draws nearer. As always, the PFBC website at www.fishandboat.com is the best location to find the most up to date information about this event and many others.

PFBC

2017 "Save Our Susquehanna" Buttons Available June 1

The new 2017 "S.O.S. – Save Our Susquehanna" button will be available for purchase beginning June 1. A fishing license is required to purchase the \$10 button and all profits from the button sales will go to fund the campaign.

The PFBC launched its campaign in 2015 and announced that a portion of license sales and proceeds from the button would be dedicated to funding water and soil conservation projects along the Susquehanna River, whose young Smallmouth Bass population has been plagued by illness and elevated mortality rates.

To date, more than \$81,000 has been donated and the PFBC has contributed \$50,000 in matching funds. Last year the first S.O.S. project was started, which involves making improvements to five farm properties along Limestone Run in Montour and Northumberland counties.

The PFBC will commit another \$50,000 in matching funds when donations reach \$100,000.

Fishing licenses and buttons can be purchased online through the PFBC's Outdoor Shop or at any of 900 licensing agents across the Commonwealth. Donations can also be sent by check to S.O.S. – Save Our Susquehanna, PFBC, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106.



Three Family Fishing Festivals Scheduled for June

Three Family Fishing Festivals in June provide great opportunities for adults and children to learn basic fishing skills at no cost.

The festivals include:

- June 3, NW Region: M. K. Goddard State Park – Launch #3, Mercer County, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (for more information or to register)
- June 11, NC Region: Bald Eagle State Park - Pavilion #6 & #7, Centre County, 3 - 7 p.m. (for more information or to register)
- June 25, NE Region: Frances Slocum State Park – Environmental Education Center, Luzerne County, 1 - 5 p.m. (for more information or to register)

"Family Fishing Festivals are a convenient way to introduce friends and family to the sport of fishing at no cost," said Carl Richardson, PFBC Education Section Manager. "These are educational events designed for families with little or no fishing experience. Participants will learn basic fishing skills and have an opportunity to practice those skills while fishing during the program."

The PFBC waives the fishing license requirement during the program. The program is open to all ages, including children ages 5 and older. The PFBC provides equipment, bait, and tackle. PFBC staff will be present to teach skills and assist those who fish. Preregistration is required.

info@pfsc.org

July 4 Marks Next Fish-for-Free Day

Families and friends visiting Pennsylvania's popular outdoor spots on Independence Day can enjoy a day of free fishing as part of the PFBC's Fish for Free Days promotion.

Fish-for-Free Days allow anyone to legally fish in Pennsylvania without a fishing license from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.. All other fishing regulations apply. The first free fishing day was offered on May 28.

"Fish-for-Free days offer an easy, convenient way to introduce friends and family to the sport of fishing, or to reconnect with the sport if you haven't fished in a while," said Steve Kralik, director of the Bureau of Outreach, Education and Marketing. "Many families already spend the day at lakes and parks throughout the state. Now they can try fishing at no cost."

To make the fishing experience more convenient, people can borrow equipment from dozens of fishing tackle loaner sites across the state, including state and county parks and some public libraries.



www.pfsc.org 17