CLASS A WILD TROUT STREAMS

STATEWIDE

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS REVIEW

STREAM REDESIGNATION EVALUATION

Drainage Lists:
D, F, J, K, L, M, P, Q, R, T

WATER QUALITY MONITORING SECTION (MAB**)**
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS
BUREAU OF CLEAN WATER
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

2017

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is required by regulation, 25 Pa. Code section 93.4b(a)(2)(ii), to consider streams for High Quality (HQ) designation when the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) submits information that a stream is a Class A Wild Trout stream based on wild trout biomass.

The PFBC surveys for trout biomass using their established protocols (Weber, Green, Miko) and compares the results to the Class A Wild Trout Stream criteria listed in Table 1. The PFBC applies the Class A classification following public notice, review of comments, and approval by their Commissioners. The PFBC then submits the reports to the Department where staff conducts an independent review of the trout biomass data in the fisheries management reports for each stream.

All fisheries management reports that support PFBCs final determinations included in this package were reviewed and the streams were found to qualify as HQ streams under 93.4b(a)(2)(ii). There are 42 entries representing 204 stream miles included in the recommendations table. The Department generally followed the PFBC requested stream reach delineations. Adjustments to reaches were made in some instances based on land use, confluence of tributaries, or considerations based on electronic mapping limitations.

PUBLIC RESPONSE AND PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

The procedure by which the PFBC designates stream segments as Class A requires a public notice process where proposed Class A sections are published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin first as proposed and secondly as final, after a review of comments received during the public comment period and approval by the PFBC Commissioners. Once the Class A sections are finalized, the PFBC then submits the fisheries management reports to the Department for its requisite independent review.

As Class A designations may ultimately result in regulatory changes to Pennsylvania's water quality standards, the Department provides public notice of its intent to assess the Class A stream data prior to any resulting redesignation recommendations. The Department's notice requesting additional water quality data was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on January 23, 2016 (46 PaB 503); March 5, 2016 (46 PaB 1287); June 25, 2016 (46 PaB 3328) and on the Departments website. No water quality data were received. In addition, all affected Municipalities, County Planning Commissions,

Conservation Districts, and State Agencies were notified of this redesignation evaluation in a letter dated January 5, May 27 and July 8, 2016. No data or comments were received in response to these notices.

Final Draft Notice, Comments and Response. Once the final draft was completed, it was made available to all municipalities, County Planning Commissions, County Conservation Districts and other State Agencies with effected streams on April 26, 2017 with a with an initial public comment period ending 45-days later. Two letters of support were received.

Table 1: PFBC Trout Biomass Estimate Classes and Criteria

Class	**Criteria**
A (Brook Trout)	a. Total wild brook trout biomass of at least 30 kg/ha (26.7 lbs/acre) b. Total biomass of wild brook trout less than 15 centimeters (cm) or 5.9 inches in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre) c. Wild brook trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total wild trout biomass
A (Brown Trout)	a. Total wild brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs. acre) b. Total biomass of wild brown trout less than 15 centimeters (cm) or 5.9 inches in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre). c. Wild brown trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total wild trout biomass
A (Mixed Brown and Brook)	a. Combined wild brook and wild brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs. acre) b. Total biomass of wild brook trout less than 15 centimeters (cm) or 5.9 inches in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre). c. Total biomass of wild brown trout less than 15 centimeters (cm) or 5.9 inches in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre). d. Wild brook trout biomass comprises less than 75% of total trout biomass e. Wild brown trout biomass comprises less than 75% of total trout biomass
A (Rainbow Trout)	Total biomass of wild rainbow trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 2.0 kg/ha (1.78 lbs/acre).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Department recommends amending §93.9d, §93.9f, §93.9j-m, §93.9p-r, §93.9t to reflect High Quality designations for the following stream segments.

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
Beaver Run	Lehigh River	Carbon	04093	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	123.56	3.1
Wash Creek	Mahoning Creek	Schuylkill	04081	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	45.42	4.36
UNT Mahoning Creek	Mahoning Creek	Schuylkill	04074	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brown	42.54	9.22
UNT Lehigh Canal (Weissport)	Lehigh Canal	Carbon	04088	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, Source to Phifer Ice Dam Inlet	Mix	61.66	1.1
UNT Lehigh River "Nis Hollow"	Lehigh River	Carbon	03913	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Main Stem, source to UNT 3914 to "Nis Hollow"	Mix	85.1	2.73
Fireline Creek	Lehigh River	Carbon	03906	D	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Main Stem, UNT 03907 to Mouth	Mix	56.46	2.63
UNT Little Schuylkill River	Little Schuylkill River	Schuylkill	na	F	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	35.92	1.34

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
UNT Little Schuylkill River "Rabbit Run"	Little Schuylkill River	Schuylkill	02248	F	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	71.54	3.19
UNT Little Schuylkill River	Little Schuylkill River	Schuylkill / Berks	02204	F	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	244.15	1.29
Sixpenny Creek	Schuylkill River	Berks	01765	F	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, UNT 64027 at 40° 14' 37.2"N 75° 46' 39.8"W to Mouth	Mix	54.7	2.494
Aylesworth Creek	Lackawanna River	Lackawanna	28566	J	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, Source to UNT 28567 at 41° 31' 18.6"N 75° 31' 23.5"W	Brook	41.18	7.13
Brace Brook	Lackawanna River	Susquehanna / Wayne	28604	J	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	101.4	3.89
Glen Brook	East Branch Briar Creek	Columbia	28086	K	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Main Stem, UNT 28087 to Foundryville Rd at 41° 4' 44.0"N 76° 14' 7.6"W	Mix	56.66	1.14
Douglas Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Cambria / Indiana	27241	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	45.52	2.8

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
Emeigh Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Cambria	27235	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	43.78	6.81
Beaver Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Cambria / Clearfield	27172	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, Source to and including UNT 27182	Brown	68.71	10.5
Patchin Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clearfield	27170	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	43.24	2.25
North Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clearfield	27077	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	39.28	1.92
UNT West Branch Susquehanna River	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clearfield	26735	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	32.5	0.59
Hogback Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clearfield	26645	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	43.92	5.99
UNT Bradley Run	Bradley Run	Cambria	26562	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	48.63	1.87
Little Dent Run	Bennet Branch Sinnemahoning Creek	Cameron	24514	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	43.27	2.2

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
Laurel Run (Port Matilda)	Bald Eagle Creek	Centre	23210	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, RMI 3.24 at 40° 49' 4.0"N 78° 5' 52.0"W to Mouth	Brown	61.26	3.03
Oliver Run	Laurel Run (Port Matilda)	Centre	23212	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	74.62	4.49
Gap Run	Logan Branch	Centre	63794	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Main Stem, Source to the sinkhole located at 40°51'59.0"N 77°44'4.0"W	Brook	231.45	2.27
Council Run	Beech Creek	Centre	22691	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Main Stem	Brook	56.34	4.58
Salt Lick Run	Beech Creek	Centre	22642	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	53.51	3.15
Sand Run	Wilson Creek	Tioga	21737	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	51.63	2.06
Rauchtown Creek	UNT Antes Creek	Lycoming / Clinton	21150	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin, Confluence of Gottshall and Rockey Runs to Mouth	Mix	71.96	19.32

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
Mosquito Creek	West Branch Susquehanna River	Lycoming	20929	L	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	70.53	21.37
Potter Run	Sinking Creek	Centre	18386	M	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	178.02	12.25
Kettle Run	Penns Creek	Centre	18322	M	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Mix	87.28	3.27
UNT Penns Creek	Penns Creek	Centre	18312	M	CWF, MF	HQ-CWF, MF	Basin	Brook	159.84	8.67
Peet Brook	Allegheny River	Potter	58513	P	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Mix	179.82	12.79
UNT Blacksmith Run	Blacksmith Run	McKean	57738	P	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Brook	37.59	4.8
UNT Marsh Run	Marsh Run	Crawford	54466	Q	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Brook	39.05	4.56
Spencer Creek	South Branch French Creek	Erie	53763	Q	CWF	HQ-CWF	Main Stem	Brook	49.49	3.87
Benson Run	Le Boeuf Creek	Erie	53515	Q	TSF	HQ-CWF	Main Stem	Brown	41.2	3.14

Stream Name	Tributary to	County	Stream Code	Drainage List	Designated Use	Recommended Existing Use	Reach	Species	Biomass	Affected Stream Miles
Water Tank Run	Elk Creek	Elk	50488	R	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Brook	52.27	3.92
UNT Stonycreek River	Stonycreek River	Somerset	45591	T	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Mix	45.53	3.24
UNT Trout Run	Trout Run	Cambria	46054	T	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Brook	41.58	2.55
UNT North Branch Little Conemaugh River	North Branch Little Conemaugh	Cambria	46033	T	CWF	HQ-CWF	Basin	Brook	37.62	2.14

REFERENCES

Weber, R., R. T. Greene, and D. Miko. 2011. Protocols for conducting biological assessments of unassessed trout waters. Pages 95-101 in D. Miko, editor. Sampling protocols for Pennsylvania's wadeable streams. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Harrisburg, PA.

PA Fish and Boat Commission. Class A Wild Trout Fisheries Management Reports.