



photo-Spring Gearhart

**by Nathan Walters**  
*Fisheries Biologist*  
*Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission*

In 2024, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) will stock approximately 3.2 million adult trout in waters of the Commonwealth open to public fishing. Stocked adult trout produced by Commission hatcheries will average 11 inches long.

Changes for the 2024 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's trout fishing opportunities is detailed on the Commission's website at [fishandboat.com](http://fishandboat.com).

## **Stocking extensions and waters added or reinstated to the stocking program**

Each year, the PFBC adjusts its adult stocking program based on several factors. 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 result in the drawdown of impoundments or decreased water flow.

### **Childrens Lake (Boiling Springs), Cumberland County**

This 8.9-acre impoundment will be reinstated into the trout stocking program. Maintenance and repairs to the dam have been completed, and the reservoir has been refilled to full pool. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Clear Creek, Cameron County**

A 5.5-mile section extending from Mud Run downstream to the mouth will now receive an inseason stocking. Formerly, this water had been stocked on a preseason only basis.

### **East Branch Cowley Run, Cameron and Potter counties**

Based on the presence of a Class A mixed wild Brook Trout and Brown Trout population, this stream was re-sectioned to terminate stocking in the headwaters while continuing to stock the 1.34-mile section extending from the Cowley Road bridge downstream to the mouth. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Hyner Run, Clinton County**

Based on the presence of a Class A mixed wild Brook Trout and Brown Trout population, this stream was re-sectioned to terminate stocking in the headwaters while continuing to stock the 3.0-mile section extending from the power line crossing upstream of Hyner Run State Park downstream to the mouth. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Kettle Creek, Clinton County**

A 0.7-mile extension of the stocking limits will lead to an increase in the number of trout allocated to this stream section. The revised stocking limits will extend for 2.4 miles from Alvin R. Bush Dam downstream to Slide Hollow. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Lake Wilma, Greene County**

This 19.3-acre impoundment will be reinstated into the trout stocking program. Stocking was cancelled in 2023 due to construction located on the quarry property that provides access to the impoundment. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Limestone Run, Union County**

Located in the town of Lewisburg, a 2.4-mile section of stream extending from the second State Route 45 bridge upstream of mouth downstream to the mouth will be added into the trout stocking program. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Loyalsock Creek, Sullivan County**

The stocking limits were extended 0.25 miles upstream Rock Run Road. The revised stocking limits will extend 8.63-miles from 0.25-miles upstream Rock Run Road downstream to Little Loyalsock Creek. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Sheppard-Meyers Reservoir, York County**

This 46.9-acre impoundment will be reinstated into the trout stocking program. Maintenance and repairs to the dam have been completed, and the reservoir will be refilled to full pool in spring 2024. Trout will be stocked on a preseason only basis.

### **Slippery Rock Creek, Lawrence County**

The 0.51-mile section of stream managed under Catch and Release Fly-Fishing Only regulations has been extended downstream 0.31 miles to the McConnells Mill State Park lower property boundary. Trout will continue to be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **Stony Run Pond, Clearfield County**

This 3.2-acre impoundment will be added into the trout stocking program. Located on the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources property at S.B. Elliot State Park, this impoundment provides excellent angler accessibility. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

### **West Branch Cowley Run, Cameron and Potter counties**

Based on the presence of a Class A wild Brown Trout population, this stream was re-sectioned to terminate stocking in the headwaters while continuing to stock the 0.9-mile section extending from Fee Run downstream to the mouth. Trout will be stocked during the preseason and inseason stocking periods.

## **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 these waters can be considered for reinstatement to the stocking program if access is improved.

### **Baker Run, Clinton County**

Based on the presence of a Class A wild Brown Trout population, trout stocking will be terminated on the 2.7-mile section of stream extending from the confluence of Shoemaker and Clendenin branches downstream to the mouth. Formerly, this water had been stocked in both the preseason and inseason stocking periods. Fish previously stocked in this stream will now be stocked in Kettle Creek, Clinton County.

### **Buck Run, Franklin County**

An increase in the amount of landowner posting has led to the removal of trout stocking from a 1.7-mile section extending from the spring 100 meters upstream Conrail railroad crossing downstream to the mouth. Formerly, this water had been stocked on a preseason only basis.

### **Spruce Run, Union County**

Based on the presence of a Class A mixed wild Brook Trout and Brown Trout population, trout stocking will be terminated on the 6.5-mile section of stream extending from the Cooper Mill Road bridge downstream to the state forest boundary at Spruce Run Reservoir. Formerly, this water had been stocked in both the preseason and inseason stocking periods. Fish previously stocked in this stream will now be stocked in Limestone Run, Union County. ☐



**FishandBoat.com**