



Fred W. Johnson  
Consultant

Fisheries Management  
Habitat Improvement

Fisheries Scientist  
and  
Recreation Economist

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CLASS A TROUT BIOMASS CHANGES - 1982-1995  
Graph Evaluation

The attached graph displays the changes of biomass of the state's original wild trout stream sections since 1982. Populations which have changed less than 10%, or have not been revisited, are not included in the 1982-1992 study. Stream sections that have continued under special regulations are displayed cross checked for the two studies, using PFC survey data. Trout stocking was terminated on other sections, and statewide creel limits (8-7 inch fish daily) remain in effect.

Special regulation waters have shown increased biomass in 77% of sections. (Note: Increased population volatility is anticipated as sections approach carrying capacity.) Conversely, 67% of sections lacking protective regulations have displayed deteriorating biomass. Limiting factors, other than exploitation, are virtually ruled out by the success of special regs over the same time-frame, and conditions of nature.

Bureau Director Graff, in presenting Pennsylvania's wild trout program before his peers at Yellowstone in 1984, stated that all wild trout streams were "deserving of exceptional management" and that "A promise was made that all wild trout streams would be re-evaluated...and if trout populations were not as good 'as we originally thought', management changes would be made." At the time there were apparently no measurable objectives of the program. A few modest objectives were later mentioned, but when they were not reached, were dismissed as normal responses to nature's vicissitudes.

Press releases in 1989 and 1993, and the 1995 PF&BC annual report all proclaimed the wild trout program a resounding success. As no enhancement objectives have been obtained, while overall degradation of Class A streams under statewide regulations has occurred, these claims are not justified.

It is hoped that the promise made at the 1984 Wild Trout Conference, to make necessary management changes to our Class A streams, will now be fulfilled without further delay.

FJ

1929 ~~Forest Hills Dr.~~ Pl.  
2294 Forest Hills Dr.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
717-653-0034

# CLASS A TROUT BIOMASS CHANGES: STATEWIDE REGS VS SPECIAL REGS

\* 1982-1992

\*\* 1982-1994

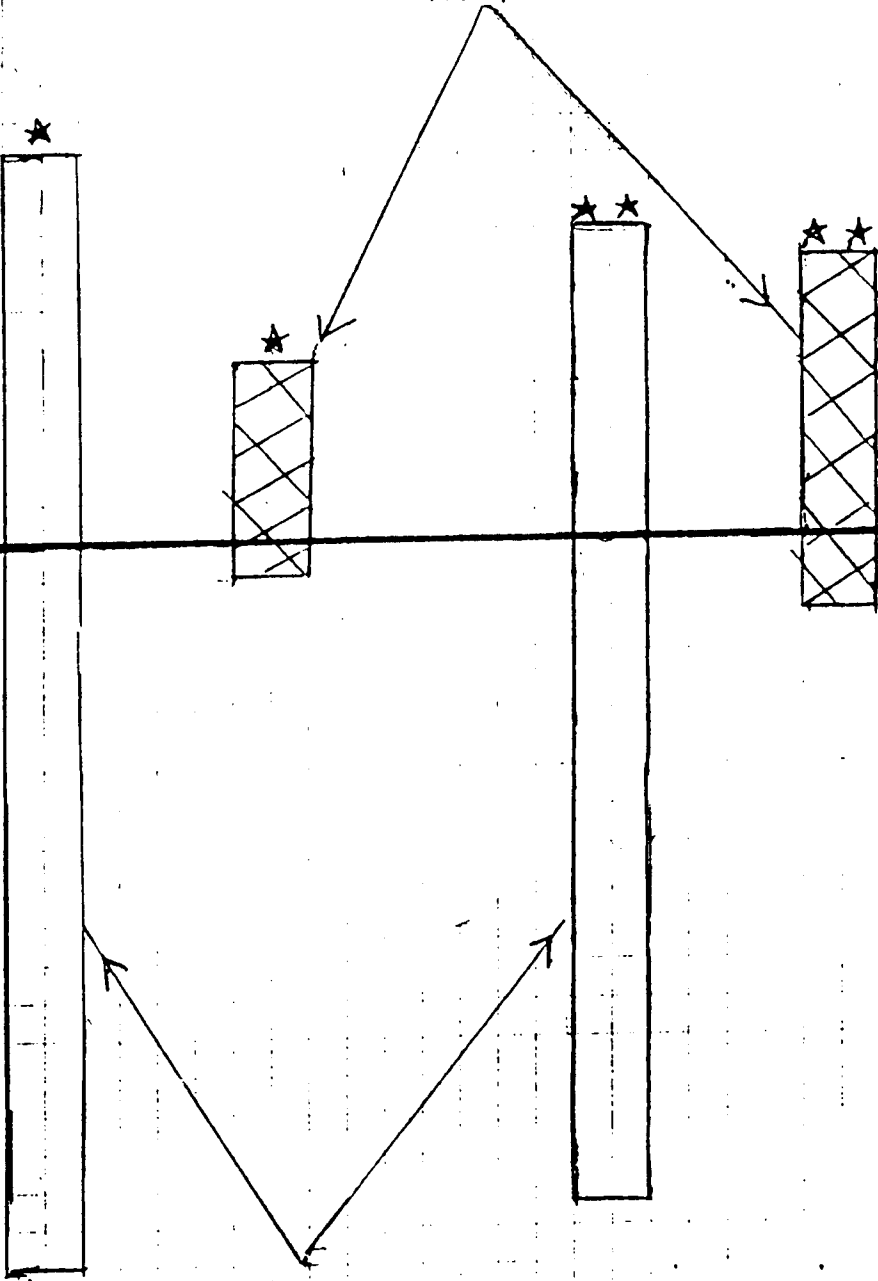
CLASS A SECTIONS  
UNDER SPECIAL  
REGULATIONS  
IN 1980

SECTIONS OF DECREASING BIOMASS

+ 2  
+ 4  
+ 6  
+ 8  
+ 10  
+ 12  
+ 14  
+ 16  
+ 18  
+ 20  
+ 22  
+ 24  
+ 26  
+ 28  
+ 30  
+ 32  
+ 34  
+ 36  
+ 38  
+ 40

+ 2  
+ 4  
+ 6  
+ 8  
+ 10  
+ 12  
+ 14  
+ 16  
+ 18  
+ 20  
+ 22  
+ 24  
+ 26  
+ 28  
+ 30  
+ 32  
+ 34  
+ 36

UPGRADE  
DOWNGRADE



CLASS A SECTIONS UNDER  
STATEWIDE UNPROTECTIVE  
REGULATIONS (8-7" TROUT)

STATEWIDE REGS  67% ↓  
SPECIAL REGS  77% ↑

\* DATA FROM PFC BIOMASS SURVEYS-1976-1992

\*\* "CLASS A WILD TROUT PROGRAM" 5/95 THOMAS GREEN

COMPILATION OF DATA BY FRED JOHNSON APRIL-1997