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Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 9:59 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; gvitali@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; apankake@pasen.gov
Cc: ra-epmsdevelopment@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards; Class A Stream Redesignations



Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards; Class A Stream Redesignations.

Commenter Information:

Robert Vierck
Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited (pres@springcreektu.org)
299 Nimitz Avenue
State College, PA 16801 US

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IRRC
2016 MAR 30 AM 10: 03

Comments entered:

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SCCTU). SCCTU has a constituency that consists of over 400 members with a common interest in cold-water conservation.

We were very excited to learn that the DEP has recommended 50 streams to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) for upgrade to High Quality (HQ) status. Public notice of the proposed upgrade was published in the 5 March 2016 PA Bulletin (<http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol46/46-10/367.html>).

SCCTU strongly supports upgrading all 50 streams listed in the PA Bulletin notice. These streams have all been surveyed, and recommended for HQ upgrade, by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission using objective standards. In particular, we would like to express our support for the upgrade of Cedar Run and Laurel Run in Centre County. Both of those streams are local to our region, and we feel they deserve the protections afforded by an HQ classification.

Finally, we would like to encourage the DEP to continue nominating candidate streams for High Quality or Exceptional Value designation when the streams satisfy the appropriate use metrics. Although this initial list of 50 streams is a good first step, there are still many other streams that have been identified as meeting HQ/EV requirements that have not yet been upgraded for designated use. Please continue to recommend HQ/EV upgrades for appropriate streams to the EQB.

Thank you,
Robert K. Vierck
President, Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Patrick McDonnell

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