

Sunday, May 5, 2019

3226

Patrick McDonnell
Secretary DEP
Environmental Quality Board
PO Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477



Subject: Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards - Class A Stream Redesignations (#7-548)

Dear Secretary DEP McDonnell:

Special streams must have increasingly special protections to ensure they stay that way. Each year, forces ranging from development pressures to climate change grown increasingly stronger and must be countered. That is why I whole-heartedly support and endorse the designation of 41 streams currently under consideration - and all those the science supports - as High Quality-Cold Water Fishes (HQ-CWF).

Protecting the water quality of these streams with High Quality designations will help ensure that our best wild trout populations continue to thrive. This supports an outdoor recreation economy worth \$29 billion to the state; Pennsylvania boasts 16,000 miles of wild trout water and more than 1.3 million anglers. More than 175,000 citizens draw drinking water from these streams. We all know that protecting water quality at the source is far cheaper than treating it downstream.

At the same time, HQ designations protect water supplies for downstream users, including farmers and other businesses.

More than 175,000 citizens draw drinking water from these streams. We all know that protecting water quality at the source is far cheaper than treating it downstream.

Thank you for acting quickly to implement this important environmental protection.

Sincerely,

Brent Burkey
2750 Thornbridge Rd W
York, PA 17408