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Replacing a Resource

The Concern: 1989 was by far the best trout fishing ever in Wisconsin. Others including DNR folks agree. It followed the drought shortened season of 1988. This exceptional fishing occurred in a year when fishing should have been bad, so bad that the season was started late and was made catch and release only. The first ten fish I caught that year were all 12" or better. That summer I caught the same 17" brown in the same spot four times. We became friends. It became apparent that if everyone wasn't taking the trout out of the river, the river would support trout quantity and quality.

I personally have heard some fishermen boast that they have taken hundreds of fish from the stream. A few of these types change the entire fishing experience for all of us. I want to make it clear that I'm not talking about an occasional shore lunch, or kids catching one, or a trout that's hooked itself badly.

The Proposal: *That when you purchase your trout stamp, you receive 20 trout tags. When you keep a trout you must tag it. You may buy another tag if you want more than 20. The extra money generated will be used to restock the streams.*

Rational: Those that take the resources, pay to replace them.

Phil R. Schweitzer
315 W Green Bay St
Shawano, WI 54166
715-526 5601