

March 22, 2022

**VIA EMAIL ONLY (greg.young@tn.gov)**

Gregory T. Young, Esq., Deputy Commissioner  
Bureau of Environment  
Tennessee Dept. of Environment  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

**Re: Supplemental Information – Trout Present in Lick Creek**

Dear Deputy Commissioner:

I am writing to supplement my previous letter of March 17, 2022, to include more information regarding the presence of trout in Lick Creek. Below are photographs and information from citizens who have caught trout in Lick Creek.

- Austin Bass caught this trout last year near Highway 7, approximately 150 feet from the proposed discharge location.



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- Chris Allen's son caught the following two different trout in Lick Creek several thousand feet downstream of the discharge point where Hassel Creek meets Lick Creek.





- Jason Ragsdale has caught trout in Lick Creek in what is known as the “Pine Bluff Hole.” He does not have photographs, but others were there to witness the trout.
- Jacob Jennette caught an approximately two-pound rainbow trout in Lick Creek a few years back approximately 200 feet from the proposed discharge location. His brother was there to witness the trout.
- Steve Runnions has caught trout at both the “Pine Hole” and at Highway 7.

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- Drew Cochran has caught trout at the “Pine Hole” on Lick Creek.
- Vange Johnson has caught a trout 200 feet down stream in the “Blue Hole” on Lick Creek. She has also seen several large trout just upstream from the Primm Springs Road Bridge and along the river while kayaking. Her older son has seen them as well.
- Furthermore, Vange Johnson would often stop to speak with two very old men who fished the “Blue Hole.” Both men have caught “lots of trout” including large ones as well just downstream from the discharge point.
- Here are additional photographs of a brown trout and a rainbow caught in Lick Creek.





A review of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (“TWRA”) trout stocking schedule confirms that TWRA only stocks two streams in Hickman County, Cane Creek and Mill Creek.<sup>1</sup> Thus, with all of the trout caught and found in Lick Creek, it is very likely that they are naturally reproducing, which would require more stringent standards of WADC’s dissolved oxygen parameters. WADC should have the burden of proving the lack of naturally reproducing trout in Lick Creek in order to allow the proposed discharge of water.

As always, we appreciate your attention to this matter. Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/twra/documents/fishing/trout/Trout-Stocking-Schedule-Complete.pdf>

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Yours truly,

BUTLER SNOW LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Hart Knight", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

B. Hart Knight

cc: Commissioner David Salyers, TDEC (*via email only*)  
Jennifer Dodd, TDEC (*via email only*)  
Stephanie Durman, Esq., TDEC (*via email only*)  
David Jackson, BDY (*via email only*)  
Sam Parish, BDY (*via email only*)  
Glen Rohrbach, BDY (*via email only*)  
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