

College of Agriculture, Food Science, and Sustainable Systems

Survey of Mine Water Resources for Trout Aquaculture in Eastern Kentucky



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Outline

- What are historical coal production and current economical trends in eastern Kentucky?
- Is there a demand for seafood in US? Where is Kentucky in seafood production?
- How can we use mine water for trout farming?
- Where are the available underground mine water outflows and how many of them appropriate for trout farming?



Coal Production History in Kentucky and Major Events Effecting Coal Production





Human Livelihood In Eastern Kentucky

"The Times' data-analysis venture The Upshot compiled six basic metrics to present a picture of the longevity and quality of life in each county in the U.S.

- education attainment,
- household income,
- jobless rate,
- disability rate,
- life expectancy and
- obesity rate.

The six counties in Kentucky's coal country-Breathitt, Clay, Jackson, Lee, Leslie and Magoffinare all among the bottom 10 for all of these."

(Insiderlouisville, 2014)



Source: Olive Branch Minister, N.D., Rural



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US Seafood Consumption vs Production

"In 2012, consumers in the United States spent an estimated \$82.6 billion on seafood, making the U.S. one of the top three seafood markets worldwide. Yet the domestic farm gate value of aquaculture products only approaches \$1.3 billion annually. Thus, much of the U.S. demand is supplied by international imports." (Office of Science and Technology Policy, 2014)



2012 USDA Aquaculture Census Data

	Kentucky Farm Count	Top Producer Farm Count	Kentucky Revenue In \$1000	Top producer Revenue In \$1000
Catfish	27	275 Mississippi	645	179209
Trout	2	180 Pennsylvania	N/A	15139
Other Fish	10	143 Washington	4	59844
Baitfish	5	35 Minnesota	N/A	5666
Crustacean	9	496 Louisiana	33	33778

Source: USDA Census, 2012



Kentucky Water Resources

Streams		Ponds	
Counts Total 237,785	Counts > 1 mile 19,706	Counts Total 193,268	Counts > 1 acre 25,790
Length Total (mile) 94,201		Area Total (acre) 450,720	
Source: USGS			



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How Coal Is Extracted?



Source: Kentucky Geological Survey(KGS)



What Happens After Mining Is Done?



Source: International Network of Acid Drainage Prevention(INAP)



How Can We Use Post-mining Water Outflow



Groundwater Discharge Points 3D



3D data displays groundwater discharge points from underground mine galleries in about 20,000 acres area in southern Pike County. Blue columns: Groundwater discharge points, Bottom features: Underground mine galleries, Top feature: Terrain



Research Approach

- Freshwater Institute concluded 118,000 gal/min was available in West Virginia for aquaculture improvements (Jenkins et al., 1995). Moreover, 53% of the water was usable for trout farming without additional treatment.
- Utilizing mine water in aquaculture made West Virginia net exporter of rainbow trout. A single location in Beckley, West Virginia produces 500,000 lb of rainbow trout (Semmens & Miller 2004).
- West Virginia has similar topography, geology and coal production with eastern Kentucky. Acidity is one of the common issues in West Virginia that is not the case in Kentucky (Semmens & Miller 2004).



Research Area





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What Water Qualities And How Much Flow Required For Trout Farming?

Parameter	Recommended	
рН	6.5 to 8.5	
Alkalinity (mg/l as CaCO ₃)	10 to 400	
Sulfates (mg/l)	<850	
Total Hardness (mg/l as CaCO ₃)	10 to 400	
Fe (mg/l)	<0.1	
Al (mg/l)	<0.087	
Mn (mg/l)	<1.0	
Discharge (gal/min)	500 (commercial level)	
Temperature (°F)	40°-70°	

Source: Heinen, 1996



What Data Available?

- Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW): over 600,000 water quality records between 1980-2013, Measured Parameters: pH, Alkalinity, Sulfates, Dissolved Fe, Dissolved Mn, Flow, Temperature
- Kentucky Division of Mine Safety (KDMS): Permitted coal mine areas 1980-Present, Measured Parameters: Active or Inactive (Reclaimed)



Methods For Analyzing The Data





Results

Coal Mine Outflow Locations for Trout Farming in Eastern Kentucky





Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Kentucky FIPS 1600 Ft US Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic Datam: NAO 1983 2011 Datam: NAO 1983 2011 False Norting: 1.206,853 333.3 Genral Mendian: 6.37500 Standard Panalel 2.8 8687 Latitude: Congre 36 333.3 Units: Foot US

Author: Oguz Sariyildiz Date: 3/19/2017



Results

	Filter Type	Total Discharge	Unique Points
Most reliable records	Newer, Longer periods	312	16
Within 300 ft reclaimed			
Mines	Spatial filtering	2,090	96
All records suitable for			
trout farming	Water quality filtering	6,385	320
All groundwater	Water discharge type		
discharge	filtering	49,908	660



Discussion & Limitations

- Even though the research was tailored for trout production, available mine water can be used for other purposes such as agriculture and agroforestry.
- Only secondary data used, ground truth needed for the accuracy.
- Data did not have the unit for flow amount.
- Water quality data was available between 1980-2012 in most cases, newer records could be added from EPA Discharge Monitoring Report tool.
- Surface mining activity may have effect on groundwater.
- The research is still in progress and has not been completed yet.



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Thank You!

Questions & Comments

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