Subject: : Stream Reports
Topic: : Swatara Creek, Dauphin Co. 4/21/12
Re: Swatara Creek, Dauphin Co. 4/21/12
Author: : Swattie87
Date: : 2012/4/23 7:55:17
URL:

Good advice from odizz. I'd agree the big thing is location. There's plenty of access points along the creek, and very little of it is posted. So if you walk a couple hundred yards from where you started and it's all wide and shallow, and you're not catching anything yet I'd cut bait and move to a new spot. It's just the nature of that creek...it will go for a mile or two of really excellent water followed by a mile or two of mostly junky water. Take a look on Google Earth...it's pretty easy to see the spots where it narrows up a bit...in general those are the better places to try. If you'd like a more specific "nudge" in the right direction, just shoot me a PM.

I don't fish it a ton in the Spring (pre-spawn) but when I do I tend to focus on mid-depth (3-5 ft) eddies and slack water adjacent to some pretty good current. As odizz mentioned, if there's some underwater structure (rocks/logs/etc) even better. It's usually tough to fish at this time of year due to higher flows and difficult wading...this year being an exception of course.

Most of my fishing on the Swatara is in the Summer...say mid June through mid Sept. Much easier wading. In Summer I focus more on the main current channel, usually in about 2-3' of water, especially in areas with large rocks/boulders on the bottom. This time of year Smallies are more apt to be out in the current seams made by the mid stream boulders. I'm sure they'd hit poppers and the like too, but I usually just swing Woolly Buggers across the main current channel. Another big thing with Summer Smallies IMO is shade lines. If you can find an area where there is a break between shade and sunshine that's an area to really take some time with, especially if some of the other features (current/boulders/logs) are present too.

In the Summer if I'm having a tough day finding the Smallies I just go smaller with my streamers and still can usually catch plenty of Rock Bass/Redbreasts along the shorelines to keep me entertained.