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Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Letort-what do I NEED TO KNOW?

Re: Letort-what do I NEED TO KNOW?

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/1/31 11:15:47

URL:

I too am an occasional passer by. IMO, it's special because it's the epitome of a stream type.

In your mind, when you picture a freestoner, you picture a brawling, rocky, fast stream complete with waterfalls, plunge pools, and the like, with lots of smallish aggressive fish. When you picture a limestoner, you picture a pastoral setting. Lush green vegetation, weed beds, slow water with neither riffles nor pools, not overly affected by rain or drought. Constant water temps, constant flow, etc. Rather than fall down a gradient, the water is "pushed" by upwelling springs at the headwaters, and runs flat. Soil is silty and soft. Water is full of life and there are plenty of BIG fish, leisurely sipping small insects, occasionally refusing even naturals because a leg wasn't bent right or something.

But very few streams of either type fit their model perfectly. Most limestones have some freestone character, and vice versa. The Letort does fit it's model, it made the model. When you think of a limestoner, you are thinking of the Letort, and when you see other limestoners, you are comparing it to the Letort to gauge it's "limestonyness". And part of that is it's history, it's the one that was written about over and over, then talked about by the readers and fishers alike, and those descriptions formed that image in our heads, even those of us who have never actually seen it. So actually seeing it then becomes a special experience, like we've been familiar with it for years.

And tactics to fish a stream like that are very different than they are on the brawling freestoner. Slow, complicated currents with fussy, well fed fish, which see you easily due to a glassy surface. That challenge is why it was written about so much, and used to perfect flies and tactics.