

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Floating the Beaverkill

Re: Floating the Beaverkill

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URL:

Why all the confusion and debate over floating the Beaverkill, or whether it's even allowed or not? The fact that the Beaverkill is wider than the WB in some places doesn't just automatically mean it'd be a better river to float than the WB. From a navigability standpoint, they're two very different rivers and the West Branch is a far better choice for pontoons and driftboats. I think the reason you don't see boats on the Beaverkill has little to do with some unwritten rule regarding tradition. Rather it's simply that the Beaverkill (save for the lower end) just isn't conducive to float trips, for starters there would be way too much portaging.

As far as people getting there panties in a bunch over some drift boats or pontoons floating by I really don't get it. For the most part, take a deep breath, relax and be patient the fish will start rising again very soon after they float thru. I've seen it, even with the well-educated, spooky fish of the West Branch. You want real frustration with boaters? Come join some of us on the Lehigh and deal with floatillas of 50+ "whitewater" rafters each coming thru several times a day. I'll gladly take being interrupted by several lone pontoons or driftboats in a day's fishing than the Lehigh's growing rubber hatch.