Subject: : Stream Reports
Topic: : Gunpowder - Baltimore Co, MD 4/14/13
Re: Gunpowder - Baltimore Co, MD 4/14/13
Author: : LongWader
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From time to time I see poachers on the CR section of the GP and they use small spin outfits or spools just like the one you saw. They stash the fish into a convenience store bag and then run a long the trail back to their cars. If you confront them they just run faster, however they are not the biggest poachers. There are a whole bunch of kayakers that stash telescoping spinning rods and bait into the kayaks and fish bait in the CR section, stash the fish in their kayaks and then paddle down to the wild trout section or lower and take the fish out there. It is very hard to catch them because they generally stop fishing and head down stream in their Kayaks as soon as they see another fisherman. I ran into a bunch of them at a local REI store and played dumb and they started bragging about all the fish they take out of the CR sections and how they have indoctrinated a bunch of other kayakers into the practice. They told me exactly what I would need to do it and warned me to pack up and head downstream if I saw another fisherman without a kayak. I told the DNR and they said that there was very little they could do about it since the take out places downstream are in areas where you can keep fish. While it has been a battle with the canoe and kayak folks to stop them from chain sawing apart the brush piles this is an even greater problem. They think the have outsmarted the DNR and the other fisherman and think of the GP C&R section as their own private trout grocery store. So far they are right because they take all the fish they want with total impunity. The Maryland DNR simply does not have the resources or the will to stop them.