
Subject: : Stream Reports

Topic: : Swatara Creek, Lebanon County, 07/17/13

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URL:

About 3 weeks ago (before the forecast about the heat became apparent) I scheduled a few days off work during the middle of this week. Plan was to build a stone firepit in my back yard that I haven't otherwise had time to do, and maybe sneak in some fishing. With the heat, I've been working on the firepit in the early mornings and evenings, so I decided to fish a little today in the middle of the day. With the temps it had to be wet wading, which for me means WW fishing.


Fished the Swatara in/around Swatara Gap in Blue Mountain from about 12:00 to 4:00. Air temp was approximately 90, water temp was 77 at 12:00, certainly warmer at 4:00. Caught a typical Swatara mix of Smallies, Fallfish, and Redbreasts, along with a couple Rock Bass. Guessing I landed somewhere in the neighborhood of 30. Was fishing white BH Buggers with Grizzly hackle and White/Gray Clousers. Most takes were on the drift or swing. Active stripping got a lot of chases but only accounted for a few hookups. The Smallies I caught were all in relatively swift water, for Smallies anyway. There were plenty of them in the slow pools too, but they wanted nothing to do with my flies. Typical Summer Smallmouth behavior in my experience. Nothing of any real size to report. The 2010 YOY Class in this stream continues to be healthy and strong...they're about 8 inches now, and that's seriously the size of every Smallie I caught, save 2 or 3 dinks. I feel like I've watched these fish grow up...tons of 2" fish in 2011, tons of 5-6" fish last year, and now tons of 8"ers. Hopefully they continue to do well. I did see one much nicer Smallie (14" range) tailing a Fallfish I hooked.

Nice scenery in this area...looks like you're in NC PA somewhere, minus the road noise from I81 anyway. Didn't take many fish pics because all of the Smallies were more or less the same...I kept waiting for a nicer one, but it was 8 incher after 8 incher...did catch a real nice RB though.


Attach file:

 **07-17-13 (5).JPG** (98.23 KB)



 07-17-13 (6).JPG (178.57 KB)



 07-17-13 (7).JPG (168.45 KB)

