

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : How do you explore new waters?

Re: How do you explore new waters?

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URL:

I always start with your typical map browser. Find a distance you are comfortable with, and start your search there. For me, I was/am always looking for waters within 20 mins for my everyday fishing. On weekends I dont mind driving 45 mins for a full day, but I cant do that after work. So, I now have a radius around my house. Next, you can comb over the aerals looking for water. In your case, if you want small streams, a topographic map might be more helpful. If you lack cartographic skills, get some topo maps for the state college area(where im assuming you were familiar) and check out what a good stream looked like on a topo map. Watersheds kinda stick out like a sore thumb once you have some experience analyzing maps. Anyways, this virtual process of "exploring" can only get you so far. It has found me a lot of spots to fish. I have had some busts. I have had some real winners. The only way to truly find streams is to walk them and fish them. Its hard to find a substitute for getting boots on the ground. You can use word of mouth/maps/fishing reports/forums/fish commission maps/ etc. but you will never truly know until you get out there on the water yourself.