
Subject: : Stream Reports

Topic: : Lehigh River, Carbon County, 9/7/2013

Re: Lehigh River 9/7 Carbon County

Author: : bwospinner

Date: : 2013/9/10 20:34:25

URL:

Not sure about what waterways can compete w the lehigh for sheer length of fishable trout water, but certainly Pine is close if not longer? There are also many miles of excellent upper Lehigh fishing above the dam too! In fact that's one of my favorite fall fishing destinations for some truly beautiful browns.

The Lehigh is just a wonderful river anyway ya look at it -fair warning tho: like the Yough in Western Pa, the wading can be rather difficult and treacherous as the bottom is basically slime covered bowling balls in most places. A wading staff is a must on this river....

Since the Francis Walter Dam expanded they can keep more water and do more releases, turning it into a fantastic tail water fishery. There are far more hold overs year after year than I recall 13+ years ago when I started FFing - and the bug-life has grown exponentially. Though there are several small brookie streams closer to me, and a few freestones that are stocked w rainbows and browns, I have always considered the Lehigh my home waters....

There are also tons of cold springs and lots of spring fed freestone tribs along it's route that help tremendously.....

White Water rafting is still the bread and butter of White Haven tourism in spring and summer so the releases are still geared more towards that sport - but it HAS improved and I suspect will continue to. if they would time their releases with fishing tourism in mind then the possibilities. well, it makes me salivate just to think of it! Most of the fish I catch are small - but there are some lunkers to be had for sure! there are also some decent pools that have more of a gravel bottom and are wide enough or lack the tree cover along the banks to make for some amazing late night fishing for big cannibalistic browns (mouse patterns, big stimulators and streamers/buggers on a moonless night at 2AM is a blast!).... it's also a truly beautiful river scenically, of course, with tons of wildlife. Didn't include it in the stream report but I saw a pair of beavers, a bald eagle, a blue heron and about 1/2 dozen turkeys while fishing... and a couple of piles of bear scat in a bedding area below the high water mark (looked pretty recent to me) I <3 the Lehigh River :)