

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Felt Soles or NOT?

Re: Felt Soles or NOT?

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Date: : 2008/9/25 8:39:49

URL:

Nothin wrong with TU asking these companies. Doesn't mean they'll comply, when forced to choose between ethics and business, businesses choose business, but they'd prefer to find a way to make them both agree. Rather than just stopping the sale of felt, which for some companies means stopping the sale of wading boots altogether, they'll say no to TU, but ramp up R&D efforts at the same time. In time that R&D will turn into new, more environmentally friendly products, and the marketing will say how necessary these things are (which of course they make money on people replacing their current boots). They'll also be ready should a mandatory ban happen on felts.

Perhaps each company will come out with its own version of "Aquastealth" and advertise it. I don't even think you have to go the rubber route like Aquastealth, just make a less absorbant felt-like material, combined with a boot design to help the stuff dry. It's not that felt is bad for those who manufacture it or not ineffective enough, it just holds water for too long. I don't think this is a terribly difficult nut to crack for a modern R&D center of a reputable company. The question will be how quickly it trickles down to the "me-too" companies, it's those companies that will offer gear at Joe everyday angler prices.