

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Intrepreting stream flow numbers

Re: Intrepreting stream flow numbers

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URL:

It's mainly from experience. You'll start to recognize a range of CFS when the stream fishes well. The local fly shops may be able to offer some guidance; the guys in the shop will be gauge watchers and should have a good understanding of the relationship between the gauge readings and the fishing conditions. Once you begin to understand the gauge readings for a particular river, you'll also develop an understanding of how quickly the particular stream will clear after a rain event (this will vary based on the amount of rain, the season, and how much rain has fallen recently). It may not have anything to do with the averages. A good general rule; when there are no recent spikes the fishing should be good even if the water is high or low relative to the average (assuming the gauge is working properly). Another thing to be aware of; the gauges can freeze in the winter and may not be reliable. This too is something you'll begin to figure out with experience. If you have a long stretch of cold and the gauge is doing something suspect, it is probably frozen and giving false readings.

PM me if you have questions about the rivers in NE Ohio and NW PA.