

## TOP FISHING SECRETS

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### **Bank Runoff & Saturation Point**

*Anglers must be able to anticipate waters that “can” blow out from overly saturated soil to avoid boating and wading hazards*

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There is a point between how fast precipitation falls, absorbed into soil, and then filtered into streams and rivers where it becomes official runoff water. Runoff seeps into the soil and moves downhill from there into streams and river basins. How fast each area gets runoff is on the basis of what is called the “saturation point. Saturation point is when soil can no longer soak up water and simply transfers it from precipitation to river water. When the saturation point has been achieved runoff begins to pour into small rivers and streams and can blow them out to flood stage within hours. Drift fishing anglers must be able to anticipate waters that “can” blow out from overly saturated soil to avoid boating and wading hazards; more than that, it’s essential to know to be able to find biting fish that may feel pressure from rising waters. Rivers that have a proven history of flooding should be avoided during the wettest times of the year. Bank runoff and saturation point heavily influence the behavior of fish since water volume can increase and decrease with dramatic effect within hours to days carrying large debris downstream and decreasing oxygen levels. As silt, suspended loads, and bed loads are transported they stir up the riparian clouding it up and cleaning the bed at the same time. It’s called “scouring”.