

West Rim Trail and Pine Creek Canyon South Float Trip Access Areas

Tioga State Forest



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2017

FLOATING PINE CREEK

Pine Creek Gorge affords the whitewater enthusiast a real challenge during high flow conditions, which normally occur in April and early May. Scenery and terrain along this route are unspoiled and rugged.

CAUTION: A single paddler should not attempt this stretch alone. The only public access to Pine Creek between Tiadaghton and Blackwell is by walking or biking on the trail.

Please help us maintain the natural character of Pine Creek. State laws prohibit littering, but some people still litter the streambanks. Help keep Pine Creek litter-free by packing out trash. Remember the natural beauty that you have seen and please leave it unspoiled for those who follow in your wake.

Be considerate of fishermen you encounter. Where possible, pass behind them. Otherwise, allow them as wide a berth as stream conditions permit.

Respect the rights of the owners of private property. Pine Creek is open to the public, but the banks, in some cases, are private and may be posted against trespass. If your trip requires the use of privately owned lands for lunch, camping, launching, takeout, or other purposes, always obtain the landowner's permission.

Never drink water from the streams or rivers. If possible, obtain your supply from sources known to be treated. If in doubt about the quality of your drinking water supply, always boil or chemically treat the water.

River Stage Information:
https://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/uv?site_no=01548500
Water levels of Pine Creek can be obtained from the National Weather Service (State College, PA) by calling (814) 234-9861. The minimum "no scraping" water depths for Pine Creek are:

- Ansonia to Blackwell 3.0 feet
- Blackwell to Cammal 3.0 feet
- Cammal to Waterville 2.8 feet
- Waterville to US Route 220 2.5 feet

The readings are post-1972 flood (Hurricane Agnes) and may change on a year-to-year basis. During high water, large waves capable of swamping open boats may develop at some locations.

SAFETY AND THE LAW

Creek conditions can also be determined from the gauge on the US Route 6 bridge. Good canoeing conditions exist when the gauge reads 1.5 feet. Readings of 2 feet and greater indicate hazardous conditions and canoeing should only be undertaken with great caution. On the other hand, rafting improves with the higher creek levels and should be the choice when the water is high. Pine Creek, from Ansonia to Blackwell, is classified as Class III water with frequent rapids and swift-flowing water.

Pennsylvania law requires that all vessels (not just motor-boats) have on board a Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) for each person.

Boats less than 16 feet in length and canoes and kayaks of any length can satisfy legal requirements by carrying one approved wearable device (Type I, II, III) or throwable (Type IV) device for each person on board. Boats 16 feet and larger must have one approved wearable device (Type I, II, or III) on board for each person and one throwable device (Type IV) must be on board.

COLD-WATER BOATING

Cold Water Kills! Few people realize the danger involved in a sudden plunge into cold water.

Due to hypothermia, life expectancy in 33° to 40° (0° to 5°C) water may be as short as 15 minutes even when wearing a personal flotation device. Cold water can numb the extremities and limit reflexes almost immediately. Should you plunge into cold water, you may not have the opportunity or the ability to put on a PFD. Therefore, PFDs should always be worn when cold-water boating.

	State Forest Lands		Gate
	Natural Area		Vista
	State Park Lands		Interpretive Panel
	State Game Lands		Small Boat Access
	Contours Are on 100 Ft. Intervals		Camping
	County Boundary		Picnic Area
	State or Federal Highway		Picnic Pavilion
	Hard Surface Road		Restrooms
	Improved Dirt Road		Water
	Drivable Trail		Phone
	Administrative Road		Parking
	Designated State Forest Hiking Trail (Foot Traffic Only)		
	Hiking Trail (Foot Traffic Only)		
	Shared-Use Trail (Hike, Bike, Horseback)		

At this scale, the boundary details are limited and some small private parcels within state agency lands are not shown on this map. There are many areas of private lands within the boundaries of public owned areas. Please respect the rights of private property owners.



Map Datum: World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84)

