

Thinking of New Wading Boots? It's Not a Bad Idea!

This is not news but...

Orvis has a new perspective that promotes getting a pair of wader boots specific to each water you fish if you intend to stay with felt. A little expensive, but frankly a good idea.

A number of environmental and state wildlife organizations are now discouraging the use of felt bottom soles due to the porous soles allowing diseases and small organisms (such as whirling disease spores, and rock snot diatoms) to penetrate deeply into the felt. Thus it is hard to adequately kill the organism but at the same time, the organisms can come back out of the felt later on. Testing by the New Zealand Biosecurity has proved this. It also has proven that many cleaning agents are not able to penetrate deep into the material in a reasonable period of time. It is also quite hard to completely rinse cleaners and disinfectants out of the sole which then can leach out in the stream.

This may or may not be a small issue, but it does give concern to government agencies and probably causes heart palpitations to extreme environmentalist. Certainly non-chemical options such as high heat drying and hot water would have no environmental impacts, so use them whenever possible.