

## Trip Report Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 2019 Lackawaxen to Pond Eddy

Well: after cancelling 3 trips, 1 for personal scheduling, 1 for high water and one for intense heat I finally got to run a Delaware trip this year.

Jim M, Joseph M, Harris R, Michael C and Bennet H met at the Lackawaxen access and unloaded our boats. Jim and Harris then headed to the take out, Kittatinny's Pond Eddy Base to leave a car and pay the access fees. Unfortunately due to small parking area management has decided to no longer offer that option. Fortunately the Lander's bus next door had plenty of parking and we parked there for a five dollar fee. A rapid recovery.

**STATISTICS:** Air temperature ranged from mid 70s to mid 80s with light winds and about ten minutes of sprinkles between 1 and 2 pm. Water was around 80 the whole trip and levels were 3.1 ft or a1,200 CFS. This equated to low water at Cedar and Shohola rapids, but no problem to navigate. Local information is that the section is passable at a little over 2 feet at the Barryville gage.

This trip started at the Lackawaxen PA access just a short way above the Roebling Delaware Aqueduct.

<https://www.nps.gov/places/roeblings-delaware-aqueduct.htm> about ¾ mile above Cedar Rapids. This is a class I + rapid that runs about 300 yards from top to bottom and ends in a mile long pool.. At the end of the pool we will approach the Barryville/Shohola bridge. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barryville%E2%80%93Shohola\\_Bridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barryville%E2%80%93Shohola_Bridge) We stopped under the bridge for lunch and rode out the five minute rain sprinkle. Just beyond the bridge is the entrance to Shohola rapids that runs for about ½ mile in several (I think 4) drops.

At mid-summer levels there was a bit of rock dodging, but no real problem. As the levels rise to five feet the wave trains become more active and the rocks disappear. Pretty much a fun place for paddlers with a little experience on moving water. None of our group felt challenged.

**The next several miles (6.5) are unremarkable and mostly flat water, but the scenery is pretty nice.** We will found some birds (a flying eagle, some swimming geese with young, a swallow, a cormorant and a few small towns along the river. Rt 97 follows the NY shore line for most of our trip, so we did not have that feeling of being in the wilderness like some other stretches although it was peaceful for the most part. For part of our trip we could see the ruins of the D & H canal that carried coal from PA to NYC via Kingston NY.

<http://academic2.marist.edu/foyesopus/essays/delaware%20and%20hudson%20canal.htm> and <https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery-item.htm?pg=3700346&id=1D1830B0-155D-451F-67C711083ACB2866&gid=1D182AD1-155D-451F-67878C1CE9EA890F>

The take out involved a steep hill to carry the boats out about 15- 20 feet vertically and about 150 feet horizontally. Due to age and hernia I can no longer handle this take out. My thanks to Mike and Harris for carrying my boat up that hill.

