

# River Float/Fishing Trips

by Muskie Guide Larry Ramsell

The multitude of rivers that surround the Hayward Lakes area were the "highways" used by the Indians, early explorer's and the loggers that "cleared" the northwoods from the late 1800's thru the 1920's.

River float fishing trips on these rivers are probably one of the most underutilized options available to anglers in the north woods today. What could be better than a serene float trip down one of northwestern Wisconsin's pristine rivers, following the "roadway" of the early American Indians and later the hardy explorer's and loggers?

Think about it. Different scenery at every bend in the river. Wild life everywhere, from Bald Eagles, herons, ducks and many species of birds overhead, to the otters, beavers, muskrats, mink and fisher along the waterway, not to mention the chance to see the occasional fox, wolf or bear. But perhaps more important to the angler, the opportunity to hook up with several different species of fish. Muskies are regularly taken, from the little guys to the occasional giant over 50 inches ; walleyes to 30 inches inhabit the pools and riffles, not to mention the many scrappy smallmouth bass, which are abundant and have been taken occasionally in monster proportions to over seven pounds!

While naturally we recommend that you hire a guide to take care of all the details, provide any necessary equipment, including a good stable river boat, and take care of the chore of boat handling while you enjoy the trip and the fishing. Float trips using rental boats or canoes, as well as drop off and pick up, can be arranged for those who would rather do it themselves by places such as Sportsman's Lodge (715-462-9402)

There are many rivers available to the exploring angler and several put-in and take-out places that may be used.

So you see, it can be a wonderful opportunity to "get away from the crowds" and "become one with nature at its finest" and catch fish too!

Don't forget your camera (throwaway types recommended for float trips), rain gear and fishing equipment, sun screen, as well as food and drink.

Have a great time!!!

Larry Ramsell offers guided float trip and can be contacted at: 715-462-9880 or email at: [larryramsell@hotmail.com](mailto:larryramsell@hotmail.com) Check out his web site at: [www.larryramsell.com](http://www.larryramsell.com)