

Fishing – keep an eye on water levels before going river fishing again



Fishermen should look at water levels before returning to local rivers after the heavy rain. Picture by Nigel Duncan Media

Fishermen are glad the rain has come to boost water levels in local rivers but don't go back too soon.

That's the advice of Eddie Wells, a fishing consultant at Orvis in Edinburgh, who offered a caution as the rain poured down on the Capital.

He said: "Very quickly rivers like the Water of Leith will turn to oxtail soup. Visibility for anglers and the fish becomes very limited.

"The river is probably going to be in spate. Flies will go crashing down there like a train.

"When it is like this and the river is running brown my advice is to stay at home or go to a trout fishery where conditions do not change so readily.

"You can still have plenty of sport on the local fisheries and wait until the river has calmed down."

Eddie said information about river levels can be sourced on the Scottish Environment Protection Association (SEPS) and www.fishpal.com sites

He added: "So, if you are hungry to get back on the river keep an eye on those sites and see when it is back to something sensible.

“Visual is often the best way of deciding. If you are nearby a river go and have a look.”