



a natural state

Artist: Peter Werner

Video 5: Friendship

Man: OK, where're we going to go?

Werner: ... [indecipherable]. That's where we want to go.

Man: That's where we want to go.

Werner: That is a pretty nice shoot there. And that would put you into the calmer water here, rather than keep you out into the really white, heavy stuff.

Man: That might be what we should try.

Man with backpack: I took Peter's course—his whitewater course—and he had the opportunity, I think you could say, for...to allow his former students to come paddle with him again. So I keep taking the course over and over and over again, so one of these days I'll learn to paddle. But it's been about fifteen years, I guess, that I've been associated with Peter.

The course itself gave me confidence of being on the river. It wasn't one of these things that you'd be frightened to be on the river. You thoroughly enjoy getting out and improving your skills and that sort of thing.

Man wearing life jacket: Well, I actually don't know Peter all that long. We only met the beginning of the summer, when Bob here, who is my tennis partner, got me involved in the canoeing down on the Saluda River, which Bob's group has been doing for some time now. And I must say, I've been enjoying this immensely. It's, it's, it's really good.

Werner: I'm going to go over there to that eddy pool over there and see if there's some sticks there.

OK, this is a piece of wood that I just found at the riverbank here that I call beaver wood. You have an example of some teeth marks and then, all the way along, you can see how the beaver cleaned off all of the bark. That's what they eat. And then here was a branch that they ate off. And here's a branch that they ate off.

And I'm going to be able to, maybe, cut this off about here somewhere, and then this'll make a really nice sweeping broom...stand-up sweeping broom with a long handle. So I'm pretty excited. This is just the start of our trip and we've got one already.

Man in cowboy hat: I learned a lot once I started paddling with the group. In particular, just repetition...getting to go as many times as I could and watching the class. We shared the same activities, same hobbies. It's a good fit as far as finding a father-in-law.

Werner: Everybody has a right to the river.