

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 11th Nov. 2022.

by Ray French.

This has been a week of mixed blessings for anglers at the drought ravaged Bewl Water....

The upside being a further 2,000 Trout were stocked overnight on Monday as the first stage of the Winter Program. Southern Water has also taken advantage of the recent heavy rainfall and flooding to begin the massive operation of refilling the reservoir from its Pumping Station at Yalding on the River Medway via the Goose Creek 'Cascade' in Bewl Straight. In just a few days the level has risen from 41% to around 50%.

The downside however has been that the water, already coloured by 'mud wash' from previous rain on the exposed banks, was immediately made worse by the Medway's equally coloured content. Consequently, the fishing this week has suffered, a pity after last week's resurgence of action despite the fish being deep.

Again, this week the fish have been deep, around 15 - 20 ft, but the majority have not responded to fly or Lure, at least not in great numbers. What little action we had today came to the twin White Minkie Boobies on a D18 Booby basher off Chingley Point. I was not out on Wednesday so missed the banter with regular Fly and AM rods.

SUMMARY

Obviously, the extra stocking and rising level is a good thing, but it has its price. The pumping may not be consistent. Apparently, it can only be done whilst the Medway is at a certain level and could stop at any time, giving the water an opportunity to settle and clear a bit. Wind is another contributing factor influencing colour. If it calmed that would help considerably.

Still the best set up for me on the fly has been the Minkie Boobies with mixed retrieve. Short casting through the top or long casting and slowly searching the depths on the drift. Today, with the brisk wind in the main bowl we even dropped the hook and fished almost static for a while, usually deadly in the depths of winter. But we have not got cold winter conditions. I am assuming that the fish are down to evade the mucky water and with it clearing will be back up especially at mid-day.

But as I said last week, every day is different and at the moment it pays to vary depth and position often until you find fish. If you do stumble on areas of cleaner water, it is certainly worth given them a try.

Tight lines and have a good week.

Ray F.

Below: First 'Cray' today for years at Bewl. Took the Minkie Boob!

