

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT.
Week ending Friday 2nd Dec. 2022
by Ray French.

Yet another fresh stocking of 2,000+ Rainbows went in early on Wednesday as part of the fisheries Winter Programme and what with the rising water level it bodes well for some seasonal fun.

Hopefully the repeat stockings will help boost the catch rate which continues to be slow at the moment. The Any Method guys are catching, but then they do use multiple techniques including bait, whereas us Fly boys are reliant on Fur and Feather and to a greater extent clear water.

The water is clearing though, gradually, and it was noticeable on Wednesday in some places especially off the wind. However, the lake visibility in general is still very cloudy compared to normal at this time of year. I am sure that the fish will react favourably as the water quality improves. It can't be pleasant conditions for them and although fish can be seen sprinkled around the reservoir I am finding it very challenging to boat them.

This time of the year most of the regular AM boats fish at anchor in their favourite spots, usually within 100m from the banks/dam and often closer. That is probably the most sensible way to fish with the water colour, go to an area that generally holds fish, drop the anchor and let them come to you.

On the Fly or Lure it is very much the same as above, either anchored or on a slow drift, very much a case of varying the depth and speed and keeping an eye out for rising fish.

This week the weather has been much calmer and mild, in fact on Wednesday (see picture) it was a Foggy start and flat calm followed by bright Sunshine. Eventually with the introduction of a slight wind and ripple at lunchtime fish became evident, not in great numbers but rising nevertheless. However, they were obviously not feeding and certainly not prepared to chase and like last week the only thing that turned a fin at for me was a small yellow Fab and small orange Blob fished on the Floater or Hover line and cast right on their nose!!

One thing I haven't mentioned for a while is the Bank Fishing. With the water now covering pretty much most of the mud a lot of the banks are now fishable. The Dam (at certain times) Ferry Point and Bewl Straight, 7lb Creek and Bramble point to name some favourites. One of the best winter options, the bank from the Boat Jetty to the Aqua Park, is not completely water covered as yet and not advised in parts but should be soon. Always a winter favourite but check with the Rangers on site.

SUMMARY

Difficult yes, more for the Fly Rods perhaps than the Any Method but the new stock and rising water should help all. For the regulars, stick to the areas you know produce within 100m of the bank and for those with little experience look out for bending rods or groups of boats!

Tight lines,
Ray French.

Below. The beauty that is Bewl

