

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT.

Week ending Friday 13th

by Ray French

As you can imagine not a lot of boat fishing has been done on our national waterways this week what with a consistent blend of heavy showers and strong winds. Certainly, Bewl has had its share of both and consequently attendance has been low.

Having said that when a window of opportunity has arisen fish have been caught to both the Any Method and Fly rods. However, in truth that has not been often, and it has been in short bursts usually between 11-1pm.

The problem at Bewl is that with the combination of weather the water clarity suffers, especially around the banks and shallow water up to 15-20ft. This is shallow for this reservoir but the sort of depth we have been catching, albeit fishing on the bottom.

John T and I ventured out on Wednesday but not for long and we didn't go far, and after dragging the anchor on three consecutive drops we abandoned that and tied up to one of the buoys out from the playground. It was pleasant enough in a bit of sun for a couple of hours. John had a nice fish and a take and I had a couple of takes but lost a fish after about 5 seconds to what was a thumping hit. But that was it and again the action was just after 11am. It didn't last long though because the rain clouds that had been forecast started to roll in and with them an increase in the wind strength, which had been a stiff breeze anyway, was beginning to get silly.

I have noticed this season, more than any other I can remember, that the Trout haven't liked a strong wind, even in the Summer. Not sure why, maybe a different stock of fish or perhaps there is even less naturals to hatch than before. They certainly don't like it at this time of year and normally we would have gone up Bewl Straight off the main wind, often with some success but not on Wednesday!!

SUMMARY

Obviously, less rain and wind will help clear the water back to last week when the fishing was good. It's normal for January that the majority of fish are down, although there is often a rise at early light on arrival, but these could be coarse fish. Difficult to see at distance but they have always disappeared before we can get out.

The pumping and rainfall are filling the reservoir nicely and it's already up to the top section of the overflow tower which bodes well for the new season. The water will no longer be disturbed by inflow and should settle and clear to near perfect conditions.

Even now the water clears faster as it fills and if the wind drops a tad the fishing will improve immediately.

Of course, it is always more difficult in winter. That is mirrored across the reports from other reservoirs but there is still some good sport to be had and it's not particularly cold at the moment. Having said that we are still finding the best tactics on the fly to be fast sinking lines and small fish imitations on the carpet. Personally, that means one or two Minky Boobies on very short leader.

Still time to enjoy your fishing with all the boats available for another couple of weeks yet.....
Tight lines, Ray F.