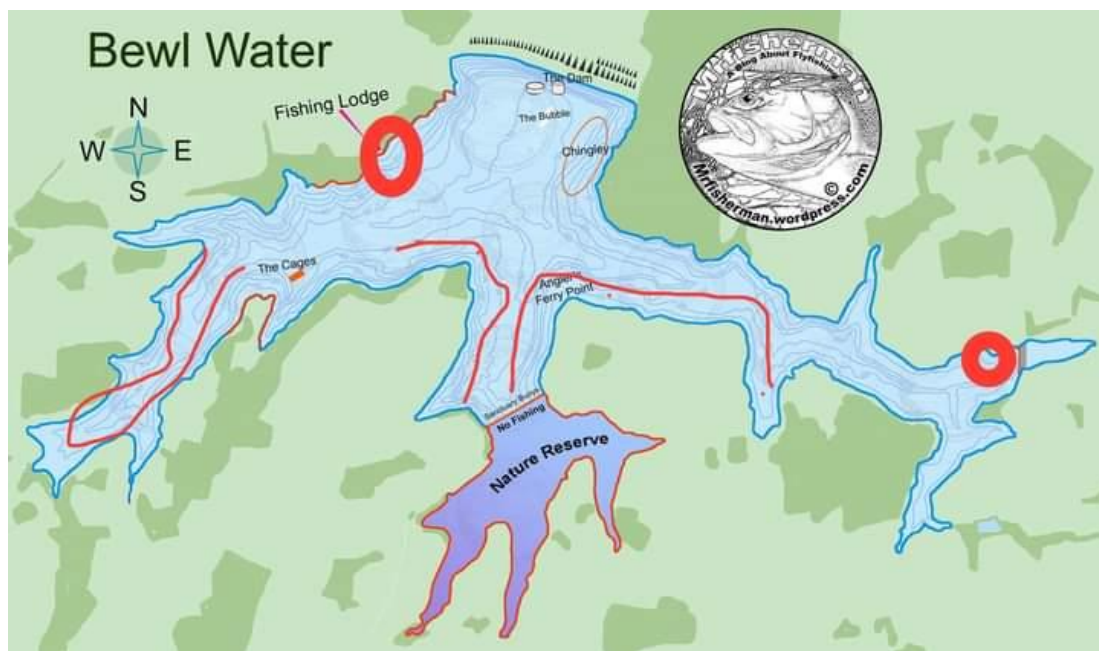


BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT
Week ending Friday 31/3/2023
by Ray French

The fishing this week has been very good indeed, exactly what you would expect early season from Bewl with plenty of fish being caught by both Any Method and Fly. With a break in the weather I was back out in the boat with John T on Wednesday to get my fill and we weren't disappointed. We managed to catch well into double figures from all over, all returned bar 6 for you guys. Enjoy!

I have taken the opportunity today to repeat the graphic map of Bewl (below and shown two weeks ago) indicating the areas stocked prior to opening week including the route taken by the Rangers stocking by boat. The main reason is that the fish are still very evident in all the places they were put and certainly worth the reminder.



MAIN BOWL

Last week I reported another stocking from the concrete apron outside the fishing lodge. Many of the fish have now spread out around the Bowl to all the usual places, the Dam, Chingley, Copens and both the Points, Ferry and Beauman's. But there is also a concentration of fish from the Lodge past the Playground down to the Dam.

Having said concentration they do move, up and down and in and out. This means they are not always easy to find, and a lot depends on the wind direction and temperature. Unreasonable of them really, but fish are like that and have several appendages to help them along. However, if the wind is blowing into the bank at the Playground and not too cold that is where they will be.

ROSEMARY LANE

Still plenty of fish being caught at Rosemary Lane end of Bewl Straight from the boats and the bank. They have spread out nicely and are now in Tinkers Marsh around the Point and in Tinkers Bay. The bank anglers are doing particularly well in this area with plenty of fish from the Dam corner and 'The Seat' near the Oak trees on the opposite side. In fact, this whole area is surprisingly still seething fish and well worth a visit.

BEWL STRAIGHT

Both sides of Bewl Straight have fish with Dunstars Bay Point being the 'Hot Spot' from the bank on Wednesday. We also had fish from the other side drifting into the trees at Hatherells and No Name Bay. As I said earlier the fish are still on the course of the stocking boat, maybe not in big numbers but rewarding if you have the patience. We couldn't fish the area from Ferry Point to Monty's Seat, too much wind, but as it was blowing into the bank I suspect it will yield fish when the wind drops.

HOOK STRAIGHT

In truth I have not as yet turned right out of the boat dock to fish any of Hook Straight, nor have I talked to anyone who has fished Hook this week, but fish were stocked from Hook House all the way up to the top. Obviously not in vast numbers from a boat but Hook Straights bays, creeks and inlets have always been a favourite for Trout especially when the water is 100% full as it is now.

FISHING

Any Method or Fly, the two most important things to remember at the moment is that the majority of fish are within 50m of the bank and that can be on the wind or out of the wind. Also, the fish are moving off the bottom and rising up more frequently than they were. Yes, there are exceptions, I have seen fish up and out in open water but not many and usually moving from one side of a Straight to another. And there are still a lot of fish hugging the bottom especially if the wind is cold. I caught all my fish on DI5 with two Pearly Cormorants and a Candy Booby again this week, fished slow on the drift from 50 yds out into the bank. 90% of the fish came to the Cormorants and the first drift we did at the Playground on Wednesday I had a fish no more than 4ft from the bank. Same in Hook Straight and Rosemary. I don't think it matters a fig what fly, spinner or bait you use providing you fish them from lakebed to surface and fish slow.

ANY METHOD

As reported by Bewl earlier in the week there was a very successful AM Competition last weekend which attracted a large field. There were plenty of fish caught with some excellent bags and a great day was had by all. Well done to the winners.

OUTLOOK

This weekend and next week should fish really well again, the weather looks OK and I am told there is another stocking imminent, probably next week. So, book your weekend boats and take advantage of what promises to be a cracking season.

Tight lines, Ray French.