

BEWL WATER FLY FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 2 June 2023

by Ray French

With the recent Stockies now well spread out, Bewl is continuing to please. Fish are being caught from all parts of the reservoir. This week has been good overall, but we have had both a cold North wind and sun on most days which has made it a bit more of a challenge. On Tuesday and Wednesday the wind was excessive and put the fish off in the afternoon, especially out in the open water. When it is a cold wind, it pays to get out of the worst of it and into the more sheltered areas of the reservoir. Certainly, the Dam has provided the best protection and shelter in the Main Bowl and has also been the most productive with many taking advantage of it.... including the fish!! But it's not been the only place. Hook Straight has produced with Seven Pound Creek, Hook House, Bramble Bay and the old Cages being the most popular.

In Bewl Straight, Chingley Wood up to Goose Creek is the most sheltered side and from there to the opposite bank is ok to drift when the wind drops a bit.

Most of the fish have vacated Rosemary Lane on the cold wind and have moved out into the main Bewl Straight to join those that are already there from other stocking. They can be anywhere in the straight. It's bays and creeks or open water so it pays to move about unless you are lucky enough to drop anchor on a pod first chuck!

FISHING

Of course, fishing in the wind is not a major problem at all for the Bewl boat angler. Uncomfortable maybe, but all the boats are sturdy, have good strong anchors and plenty of rope. Most of the Any Method rods anchor anyway, as do many of the Fly-fishing lads, when the weather is rough. However, for those on the fly that prefer to drift fish and those in competition where it is obligatory, the wind is not welcome and very restricting.

I was out Wednesday on the drift and found it hard with one fish in the boat and two fish lost at the boat, on barbless hooks trying to net them in the wind. The thing is, I know there are a lot of Trout to catch in Bewl at the moment but on Wednesday the sun and wind killed it in the afternoon. On reflection, I am not sure if the fish just went off or if they went deeper. Neither do I know how the anchored boats did, I never got the chance to talk to them as I came in at 3 pm. Many of the AM anglers are fishing floats at the moment. Either 'Sliders' or fixed at various depths and information received from them can be very useful!

So far this season the fish have been taking mostly in the top 5ft, and in cloud on the top in places. The water visibility has generally been very good so on Wednesday they just took the afternoon off. (I think?)

FORECAST

Obviously, it would be nice to get a wind change back to our normal SW. A warmer, more fishing friendly, wind that encourages insect life and fish frenzy. In the short term though, it looks like more of the same. There may well be more cloud during the week with the mornings looking to be overcast. Whatever the weather the water temperature is not high, and the Trout are in tip top condition. I am told Stocking will continue with at least to more stockings before the summer interval.

Certainly, Fly rods, if you are not catching high in the water fish deeper. On reflection I should have on Wednesday but didn't have time. However, I am out again this Sunday with the Bewl Flyfishing Club in their Annual boat competition, drifting Lochstyle. If the conditions are the same, I may well go to the 'Dark Side' and use a Di7!!!

Tight lines, have a good week.

Ray F.