

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT
For week ending Friday 1/9/2023
by Ray French.

Apologies for the absence of last week's report, but a back injury has put me out of fishing for a few days. Although not able to get to Bewl I have been in touch with the regulars and management and can provide a current report, albeit a short one.

The weather has remained fairly constant of late with sun, cloud and showers being the norm. Although the water temperature is still relatively high there has been a steady flow of Trout caught, especially over the weekends when most of the boat fleet has been out. Any Method rods have again dominated the returns, whereas the Fly boys have struggled in the sun and have been very much reliant on cloud cover for the fish to rise and show.

Having said that, the fish are not deep or if they are they are not taking at depth on the fly. Most of the fish to the fly are from the top 12ft or higher in cloud. I would be on a floater much of the time now and certainly no more than a Fast Glass Intermediate and that is from a drifting boat. Different game if your anchored, as most AM rods do, as you can then continuously vary the depth of bait or fly by countdown or weight. The way we fish is of course down to personal choice, I like to drift in the boat, which during the summer or a wind is not always the most profitable or comfortable. However, when searching on difficult days I can cover more water.

Anyway, September is normally a good fishing month marking a drop in temperature as a prelude to Autumn, which gets our finned foes on the move. However, that may be slightly retarded as apparently, we can expect a mini heatwave in the next week...we shall see!

STOCKING

Because of the excessive hot spell in June/July Bewl did hold back the last batch of stock prior to the summer break which means excellent news for the Autumn. Dan Baker, Head Ranger at Bewl told me today that he intends to do THREE stockings in September to get back on track with maximum lift off!! Of course, this will depend on weather conditions, so exact dates are not available today but each stocking will be pictured in the media so keep a look out!

SUMMARY

As the water cools the fish have spread out to pretty much all of the Main Bowl and into the two main Straights and as a consequence are proving difficult find in numbers. At this time of year they are not as shoaled up as when first stocked or early season, but will normally rise freely in September especially to windborne Terrestrials. For the fly rods this means Daddy Longlegs imitations and of course the ubiquitous Hopper fly, always an Autumn favourite at Bewl. For AM the Spinners should attract the fresh stocked and rising fish.

So, September is going to be a busy month and plenty to look forward to on the fishing front. My advice is to book your boats early especially at weekends, during the week there are normally plenty of boats available so it's not so necessary.

Tight lines, have a good week.
Ray French