

## BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Week ending Friday 8/12/23.

by Ray French.

Another steady week with Bewl providing good fishing for the time of the year from boat and bank. All methods have caught, Fly, Predator, Spinning and Bait, albeit the week has had its share of changeable weather.

A mixture of cold, sun and rain have confused both fish and angler on occasions with some days fishing a lot better than others. However, the methods have not changed a lot over the last couple of weeks. The fish are still mostly lying near or on the bottom, in a maximum depth of 5-7m, but are prepared to move up and down or into the shallows during the day.

On the fly from the boat I have continued using two Boobies attached to a short leader and fast sink line using two basic retrieves. Both are best when the boat is stationary. One is to cast and give both flies and line time to settle on the bottom before retrieving slowly, stopping and starting to give the Boobies time to rise up and down enticingly. If no takes are forthcoming, try the other option which is to cast and immediately as the flies and line enter the water start a slow figure of eight retrieve. Ideal for fishing in about 10m of water and if you can time it so that your flies are on the bottom when they get back to the boat, so much the better. In both options when the flies get back to the boat lift them off the bottom and up in a smooth arc with the rod held high and hold the flies still in the water for at least 10 seconds before lifting out to recast. So many takes occur "on the hang" and yet so many anglers forget to do it. Yes, me too. I always get annoyed when after lift off the tell-tale swirl in the water shows I have just pulled my flies from the fish of a lifetime!! I suspect the Any Method lads fish their spinners in a similar way using speed and distance to fully fish the depth.

As far as action goes at this time of year at Bewl the fish will often take early in the day and during the morning to peak between 11.30am and 2.30pm. After that with the sun sinking, they tend to go down and off. It does, of course, depend on the weather but certainly not the time of year for having a leisurely lunch.

### SUMMARY

The fish are in singles & pods and well spread out now, but the main bowl from the Dam down to the old Cages is still as good as anywhere to start with Bewl Straight still the top option. Apparently we are due for some high wind and rain in the next few days which at least means a rise in temperature, and providing the wind is manageable there are quite a few places to shelter from the worst of it and within 50m of a bank is still favourite in my view.

Tight lines, have good week...

Ray French.