

BEWL WATER FISHING REPORT

Friday 18th April 2025

Stocking Update

A total of 3,000 trout have been stocked at Rosemary Lane to help concentrate fish in that area. Future stocking will be done via trickle release where possible.

Thanks to a robust pre-season stocking effort last month—both by lorry and via trickle release from the Dory—trout are now being caught all around the reservoir. While the Main Bowl, Bewl Straight, and Rosemary remain hotspots, anglers seeking quieter, scenic spots (or just a bit of shelter) will now find the bays and creeks worth exploring too.

Fishing Overview

Fishing has remained much the same as last week—some standout days and others proving more challenging. Much has depended on the wind and temperature. For example, last weekend saw strong winds on Saturday that made fly fishing from the bank difficult, while Sunday's calmer weather offered good sport for everyone.

That said, Any Method anglers have been catching consistently across most conditions, though their success has also been influenced by the weather. On a blustery days, bait fished close to the bottom has outperformed spinners. However, on warmer, sunny days, brightly colored mini-lures have tempted trout up higher in the water column.

Despite the mixed conditions, there have been plenty of excellent catches reported. Some boats have even returned for second tickets, and Rangers have seen bank anglers hitting double figures on.

Weather & Conditions Forecast

With winds easing and temperatures on the rise, the coming weekend and week ahead look promising. Expect more consistent action as trout begin holding higher in the water column.

Feast or Famine

As always, fly fishing success can swing dramatically with the weather. Here's a perfect example from earlier this week:

The forecast called for high winds and a possible afternoon shower. It didn't seem ideal: few boats were out and the banks were quiet. A day more suited for anchoring with a float and worm... and many did just that. But since the wind was light early on, we opted to drift.

We started at the Playground and worked our way through the Dam, Chingley Corner, and Chingley Point. By then, the WSW wind had picked up and was bitterly cold. Still, Andy managed to land three beautiful rainbows, one of which is featured below. I, on the other hand, had just a single perch to show for the morning.

We pushed on: from Chingley Point to Monty's Seat, drifting through Messel Bay to Ferry Point, and up Bewl Straight toward Rosemary Lane Dam. We stopped at every promising spot—No Name Bay, Hatherell's Bay, Dunstars Point, and Tinkers Marsh—but the cold wind shut things down. Even in sheltered spots like Rosemary, the boat spun like a fairground carousel.

Defeated, we headed in around lunchtime, with dark clouds looming on the horizon. But on the way back, near Chingley Wood and about 400 yards from Chingley Point, we decided to do one last drift just for the hell of it.

It was rough, but we set up with the drogue and let the boat drift. About 200 yards from the trees, Andy's rod bent double—two trout on one cast! We managed to net both before reaching the trees.

With the wind worsening, we just had time for one more drift. Sure enough, Andy landed another. Despite the tough conditions, he finished with six high-quality rainbows, dropped two more, and declared it his best day in a long while.

We used the same setup as last week: a Di3 medium-sink line, two black Pearly Cormorants, and a mini Snake on the point. The retrieve was as slow as possible. Early on, the fish were deeper, but the final two took at around 5 feet.

Bewl Phantom