

Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Carp!

Re: Carp!

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Date: : 2010/4/6 21:28:42

URL:

Excellent suggestions thus far.

I fish for them in certain junk water stretches of ATWs during summer with a softish 9ft, 8Wt, 8 lb Ultragreen tippet, large fur nymphs, heavily weighted or lead eye tan buggers.

It is the most alert and involved fishing I do. In general, they have to be actively foraging to take a fly. If possible this is done by sight fishing. However, they are often in cloudy water based on their own foraging, or too deep. One trick I use in some stretches is to look for air bubble lines. Carp may be deep, but over a leafy, muddy bottom, their foraging can produce air bubbles at the surface, and so you can cast to the bubbles, wait a bit for the fly to sink, then lift the rod to see if they are there. It's a thrill if they are. I have also just cast out into an area where I know they cruise, but which is cloudy, and hop the lead eye bopper along the bottom like I did a plastic worm for bass in the 60's and 70's. This is less interesting but sometimes it works.

7 pounds and up is quite a brute in a medium size creek, and that is why I use the 8 wt--the snags are too close and you have no chance with light gear to keep them out of it. These guys will get into your backing in no time at all if given half a chance. Just to bring them in after hookup requires rather strenuous side pressure. This is one fish where a fighting butt is useful.

In dry, hot years, my carp fishing picks up quite a bit. I did very little last year since conditions were optimal for trout all the way through.