Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing
Topic: : Smallmouth Bass Techniques
Re: Smallmouth Bass Techniques
Author: : Fishidiot
Date: : 2010/7/19 8:30:23
URL:

Gfen,
Interesting. What you describe does indeed sound like prime smallie water. SMBs, like wild trout, seem to have "on/off" switches and some days they just go on tears and you catch dozens and then a few days later the same stretch seems devoid of fish. Also keep in mind that SMBs usually have lower populations than trout in similar habitat. You mention that there seems a lot of bass there. Some river sections, although they have ideal conditions for some reasons don't have many (or any) SMBs. To be sure, this is rare - most of the time if the habitat is there and SMBs are known to be in that waterway then you'll find 'em in predictable places such as the one you describe. Have you tried this section in the evening? Usually this time of year SMBs are easiest to catch once the sun sets, esp the smaller fish. It's not uncommon to have a fishless afternoon in high summer but once the sun gets down behind the trees the river just seems to come alive. Try poppers in the evening. River SMBs, esp smaller fish under a foot in length, feed a lot on subsurface insects. During the day try dead drifting some trout sized nymphs, about an inch long, in the deeper water under a strike indicator to help with the sometimes subtle strikes you seem to be getting. Come evening, switch to poppers.
Keep at it and good luck.