

Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Surf Fishing

Re: Surf Fishing

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URL:

Trout and bass are easy, because you know where they are. They're resident, they live there... but the ocean, they don't really live anywhere, they're always on the move and its a much bigger playground.

Well, always on the move, I guess, isn't quite true... Because you can work things to your advantages... Just like stepping up to an unfamiliar lake, you know the sort of places to look for the big largemouth, the lurking pickerel, and the roving 'gills you can sort of play the area to your advantage, but the bigger playground is always a factor.

The thing is, you have to know what's in the area, and you have to know what it wants, and where its looking. The biggest thing to consider is that while you may not be pulling in 40" stripers and 15# blues, there's always feeding fish, and they're probably right at your feet.

Ever put on a pair of polarized glasses when you went to the beach and played in the breakers? If you haven't, try it.. Go out on a nice, sunny day and just stand there... You'll be shocked when you see just how many fish are swimming mere feet from you feet (first time a school of skates went by me, I nearly crapped myself in surprise). Heck, you start to do things like watch the swells in front of you...there's fish IN THEM, even. Its amazing, an entire active feeding and dying ecosystem is within fingertouch distance of a thousand active bathers, and no one ever thinks about it.

So, yeah, take a rod... The only reason you go big rods is to throw heavy or wind resistant flies into those winds, and because you don't know when something as pedestrian as a skate is going to take your fly and muscle out beyond the breakers.... And, for what its worth, I don't dream of slob stripers or sand sharks, I dream of big stupid rays and skates, common trash fish, because like carp they'll bulldog and pull and use that muscle to their utmost the whole damned time.

Flies? Flashy bottom stuff. Your best bet is things like fluke, and yeah, zonkers and clousers and decievers, or half-and-halves, or whatever all work here. You want to get your fly into the drink and on the bottom where it won't be lifted by those swells, and you want to work that area, the "wash" or the "suds" right up on the beach where it comes crashing in, because that's where the baitfish are being smashed against the bottom, and the predators are picking 'em off while they're easy.

On my own, without a charter, I took one fish on the fly in a week of almost daily fishing. A herring. How lame does that sound? But y'know what, stripping back in a streamer and suddenly seeing the rod dive, and then a foot of gleaming silver rocket into the moon light was a blast, and was easily as much a feeling as the first stocked rainbow who ate a BHPT for me in the Saucon.

But, the journey of a million miles and one step, and all that nonsense.

Don't miss a chance to give it a go, you might get lucky.

Last year I learned, this year I'm going to make it pay off.