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Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Twenty Inch Smallmouth... Edit: Finally Did It!

Re: Twenty Inch Smallmouth

Author: : Fishidiot

Date: : 2011/11/14 19:52:12

URL:

Well today - after so many years - was my lucky day! I'm just thrilled. Remembering this thread from a couple years ago, I decided to re-fresh it and do some bragging. 😊

As mentioned in the early posts, I've fly fished for SMBs for over a decade and have never caught an honest 20" smallie on a fly. I get big fish every year but they always seem to top out at 18-19 inches. And I put in my time - usually I fish more for bass in a year than trout. Anyway, today was the day I've waited for. Juniata River: five inch long Clouser Minnow with copper krystal flash did the trick. It was the only fish I caught today, although I'm usually optimistic in late fall that, if I get any, they'll be large. The take was subtle and I initially thought I'd snagged the bottom. The fish fought down and dirty as big river SMBs are prone to do. When she finally surfaced and rolled, I saw it was a huge fish and fumbled for my net. Benny was barking furiously. 😊

Back in the summer, I'd caught a 19" in Conodoguinet Creek and this fish, once in the net, looked bigger. The pic, I don't think, does it justice - it was just massive. 20" on the dot, and I'd estimate about 4.5 lbs. After the measure and quick photo, this old girl swam away with a strong kick. It's a great feeling to finally, after so many years, achieve a long held FFing goal. Thanks for sharing in my happy story.

Here's wishing that your FFing dreams come true too.

I'll be smiling for days. 😊

**Attach file:**

 **Ben with Smallie.jpg** (156.91 KB)

