Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum
Topic: : Fishing w/ egg patterns
Re: Fishing w/ egg patterns
Author: : pcray1231
Date: : 2012/3/19 16:25:27
URL:

1. There is some social stigma to fishing over actively spawning steelhead. As in, paired up and on the redd. This occurs in the shallows in the spring. The females don't generally feed but are easy to snag, and the males will defend the redd, not out of hunger but out of aggression. This makes it unsporting to many. Fishing with egg patterns to running or holding fish is very different, they are not in the act of spawning, and are generally eating out of hunger. If that had a stigma, then you couldn't fish for steelhead at all in the tribs.

2. Steelhead, in PA, do not reproduce very successfully. Oh, I know there's a few wild ones. But 99% are stocked fish and spawning is largely unsuccessful, the population is supported by the stocking program. That's why the stigma is considerably stronger with wild fish, where the population depends on spawning success.

3. Egg patterns are used commonly in non-steelhead situations. Rainbows especially seem to love em, I think eating eggs is genetically imprinted on them. They can be very effective for browns too, though, especially wild and holdover browns while other fish, such as rainbows or suckers, are spawning nearby. It's just that with rainbows, it seems to work any time of the year, whereas with browns, it only works when the egg is matching a natural food supply.