Subject: : Fly Fishing Events and Meet-ups
Topic: : Newbie Brookie Expedition/Jam?
Re: Newbie Brookie Expedition/Jam?
Author: : Swattie87
Date: : 2012/7/31 18:00:07
URL:

Stagger - In all seriousness I don't think Brookies are any less or more smart than other Trout. Brookies in rich limestone environments can be very selective in their feeding, just like Browns. I think in general small stream/freestone Brookies are less picky with what they eat, and in turn, how it's presented to them because of the environment in which they live. In these headwater streams, forage fish are sparse, hatches minimal, and there's just plain not too much food in them. Brookies have to be opportunistic and eat whatever they can, whenever they can. That's an advantage to the angler in that they'll probably eat the fly on the end of your line too.

As far as spookiness goes, I'd say they're more spooky than pressured fish. That said, they're often found in higher gradient streams where plunge pools and broken pocket water can help keep them from seeing you as easily as in a fairly low gradient stream like Valley. If they see you, they will bolt though, and when one bolts it tends to spook the entire pool or run...or worse, one runs up into the next pool and spooks that one too! If I see a fish bolt, I usually don't even try to fish that pool and just move on...sometimes I'll come back to that pool on my way back downstream.

The key to Brookie fishing is covering water and putting a fly in front of them without them seeing you first. The actual fly is of little importance most times.