

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Good vs. Great Hat

Re: Good vs. Great Hat

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URL:

I've got about 5K in electronics nested in my ears I have to protect from the rain, as much as reasonably possible. I also favor full 360 degree brim hats because they cup sound and give me about a 10 decibel boost to my addled ears. This can come in handy in changeable summer weather when the extra 10 decibels can make a difference between a wet arse and a dry escape when a sudden t-boomer blows in and I have to beat feet for the car.

My favorite is a US Army issue Desert Storm hat that a Desert Storm vet I guided on Oil Creek back in 93 or 94 gave me because I admitted to him that I coveted the thing and because I got him into a lot of fish. I dunked it in forest green Rit for a half hour and it came out just about how I wanted it to. I soak it in Camp-Dri twice a year and can fish right through a moderate rain without having to worry about my hearing aids.

But it isn't very well ventilated and it gets hot up there. So, I also have a Columbia Boonies-style (or whatever..) fully, floppy brimmed hat with mesh ventilation. Off the shelf, it was about the color of dirty white pea gravel, so I dunked it in forest green Rit for a half hour and it came out just about how I wanted it to. I wear it in the Summer, particularly when river fishing for bass.

I also have a number of ball hat-style hats I rotate between when it is windy, as it often is out here in the Midwest. You can't keep a full brimmed hat on your head out here on a windy day. It blows all over the place. One is a complementary Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Online hat that my wife got at one of her work conferences. It says cbc.ca on it. It was white, but I dunked it in forest green Rit for about a half hour and now it is more like a pastel pistachio. Its a good hat. I think what I like best about it is that I don't know another soul who has one like it.

I also have a Western Pennsylvania Conservancy ball hat that is about shot as well as one from Tri-County Trout in New Kensington that is also pretty ragged. They were already green, so I didn't dunk them in Rit. Then, my other ball hat is a PGC hat that a former Commissioner gave me. I wear it when I come home to PA and will be fishing around a bunch of other people, like if I'm out bugging for bass on Presque Isle or with my brother on Opening Day of trout on our home creek in Crawford County. It doesn't fit very well, but I wear it mostly to annoy the people who are all exercised and foaming at the mouth about the way the Game Commission manages deer. Its kind of a green/khaki, so I don't need to dunk it in Rit either.