

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Backwoods Anglers - Fishing the WB Delaware

Re: Backwoods Anglers - Fishing the WB Delaware

Author: : Tony300wby

Date: : 2013/2/19 23:34:29

URL:

I have fished jerk baits for many years and caught alot of trout on them. I usually fish a smaller size bait like the Lucky Craft Pointer 65 or a Rapala 06 X-Rap. I would have to check, but I think they come with size 10 trebles on them.

What I have found is the size 10 and larger trebles tend to hook trout and smallmouth bass with just one of the three points of the treble hook. When you get into the smaller size trebles is when they seem to hook fish with two or even all three points.

I remove the belly set of trebles on these type of baits most of the time. Doing that all but eliminates "foul" hooked fish. It also eliminates the chance of the second set of trebles sticking me when the fish is being released. I dont think these type of baits foul hook more fish then other baits. Its more that when the fish is fighting the loose set of trebles will sometimes hook another part of the fish's body. I have tried replacing the trebles with single hooks, what I have found is that it doesnt work very well. As with 90% of the hooks that I fish with, the barbs are removed.

As far as releasing fish with these type of baits go. I honestly dont think there is a difference with a debarbed treble compared to a single hook of the same size. Grab the bend of the hook with the hemos or needle nose pliers, twist/pull and out it comes.

Could Blain have handled the fish better, sure? Did the fish have sore lips after being released, probably? Did the fish survive after being release, probably? I dont know Blain personally but have met him a few times on the Delaware River, at a local tackle shop, and at sportsman shows. He is one of the nicest guys I have ever met, and is always willing to share his knowledge.

Anyone who thinks that fly fisherman/flies cant damage fish needs to spend a few minutes on the fly fishing/catch & release section of the Little Lehigh. There are more beat up fish on that section of water then anywhere else I have ever fished.

Good luck, Tony