

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : how many fish can you catch?

Re: how many fish can you catch?

Author: : midnightangler

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URL:

For numbers, I doubt if I've ever made it past 30-45 fish. That has happened quite a few times, but I simply don't have the attention span to go for numbers for longer than 3 hours. If they were hammering dries or streamers it might be different, but I've never been in a situation where it was so fast and furious that I could catch 10-15 wild browns per hour all day long without using nymphs. Those days are really, really rare.

I spend most of my time fishing streamers that are more than 3" long. Typically this will get me one or two fish an hour, but I see twice as many big fish as I catch and this is fun to me. When you get right down to it, I'm not real interested in catching trout that are under a pound. I gravitate to places where bigger fish are more prevalent. Once the skunk is off I will pull my streamer out of the water away from a small trout rather than let him eat it.

I manage to hit my share of great hatches while streamer fishing. If the fish are rising like mad, I put down the streamer rod and throw dries. It's just about impossible to predict when trout will go nuts for a daytime hatch. Some days it just happens and you get lucky to be in the right place at the right time.

Wild brookies over 9" are special fish but I don't think its ethical to hammer 100+ brookies out of a small mountain stream. From my perspective, catching a hundred six-inch fish is wrong. Either do something to target the bigger fish or skip every other pool so as to give some fish a pass. Brookies are way too susceptible to angling to justify trying to rack up numbers on tiny mountain streams. Those fish eat almost everything that they see.

The Frank Nale stories about spending twelve hours to catch 200+ brookies from small mountain streams sicken me. I think this is despicable. I realize that people have the right to do this kind of thing, but I have zero respect for it. Just because you can do something doesn't mean that you should.