

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : How to catch and release a fish properly

Re: How to catch and release a fish properly

Author: : ROVERT

Date: : 2013/3/29 9:02:47

URL:

Obviously, it's best to keep the fish out of the water for as little time as possible if you intend to release it. When handled gently, I have no objections to a quick photo. If one doesn't feel he needs photos to document his day on the water that's his choice. Just because someone likes to have a few photos of fish he caught doesn't make him a fish killer. Stream surveys done by biologists subject a fish to just as much handling and time out of the water as an angler who gets a quick pic to remember his day on the stream.

Something I haven't seen touched on much is the fight. The length of the fight in bringing in the fish is possibly the most important factor. It's more than the fish just being tired. A long fight can lead to lactic acid build up in the muscles which will then lower blood pH. This can kill the fish even if it seemingly swims off when released.

P.S. The steelie laying on the rocks, next to a fly rod, in the winter in my profile pic went into a cooler, not the stream.