Subject: : Beginner Forum
Topic: : How to catch and release a fish properly
Re: How to catch and release a fish properly
Author: : ROVERT
Date: : 2013/4/2 17:27:41
URL:

Quote:

> That handling is done after a fight when the fish is at some stage of stress, sometimes not much, sometimes a great deal as you yourself appropriately note. But an electroshock disables the fish so that stress from being fought is not present or at least greatly reduced. They also use clove oil to anesthetize. Not an apples to apples comparison. However, the survey handling supports the notion that slime issues from handling may not be as much of an issue as is often suggested. How anyone gets a fish to stay still on the bank next to their rod for a photograph is a mystery to me. When I started taking a camera on trips a few years ago, I tried it and every fish flipped and flopped like mad. I just gave up trying after a few attempts.

Some agencies use clove oil, some do not. The handling aspect of harming fish is not related to the stresses of being caught. Handling that damages their protective membranes (knotted nets, rocks, dry hands, etc.) threatens their ability to fight off future infection, not recover from stress.

Negative effects of being out of the water could be exasperated by increased stress levels. A few seconds for a photo is not going to be the difference between life and death for the fish, though. My point was that gentle handling and limited time out of the water is not going to significantly negatively affect the fish's chance of survival. Those saying that a fisherman should never take a fish out of the water, especially for a photo, are overestimating the effects that these actions can have if done carefully. It may not be an apples to apples comparison, but I've never seen an internet comparison that was.

As far as getting the fish to stay still, you just need to play them out a bit more. Wear 'em down enough and they'll stay still for you. ;)