

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Time of Year and Trout

Re: Time of Year and Trout

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/10/8 13:22:14

URL:

Back to the OP,

Maurice's temps are correct. Actually, I'd pick temps in the lower 60's as "prime". The higher it gets, the faster their metabolism, till you reach a point where dissolved oxygen becomes a problem. In which case their metabolism is still the highest, but they're more concerned about catching their breath than meeting their calorie quota. Chasing that nymph is the equivalent of a super high altitude jog for a human.

Mid 60's = safe for fishing and highest metabolism. My best days are at these temps. Even if 50-60 is best long-term for the fish.

What Maurice says about the direction of change is important in the winter, IMO. If water temperature drops from 42 to 40, they may shut off, especially if they're used to 45 for the last few weeks. But if it rises from 35 to 37, they may turn on, especially if they're used to 33 for the last few weeks.

So absolute temperature does matter, I'd rather it be 43-->45 than 33-->35. But the direction of change matters a lot too.

Also keep in mind that abnormally warm air temperatures can actually drop the temperature of the water. Snow melt. I hate heavy snow covers. You get in that "danged if you do, dangd if you don't" mode. A cloudy 40 or 45, though, often doesn't melt much snow.