

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Steelhead 2013-2014 Thread Re: Steelhead 2013-2014 Thread

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Dave's neighbor/friend didn't make it. Dave took the skunk as well. But in his defense, when he was fishing hard, nobody caught fish. By the time the fishing picked up a little, Dave was wet and achy and was pushing hard towards the car. Neoprene's and a couple of lbs of sweat left him wet and dehydrated. We fished the way out, me more than him, and I was willing to cross and do more to get the right angles, which is how I picked up what I did. Think the polarized glasses helped a lot too, I couldn't see fish, but I could see bottom and fished the darker lines where I thought they'd be laying. They weren't aggressive, you had to stick it on their nose I think.

It might have been that on Friday, things would have picked up a little later in the day if I had stuck to Elk for the afternoon. Thursday night was full of rain/sleet/snow, and places upstream in the watershed had several inches on the ground, which proceeded to melt quickly with the warm ground. It may have been more about water temperature, rather than clarity. As I said, the clarity wasn't perfect on Friday, but I didn't think it was all that bad either.

Friday night was the same story, to a lesser degree. And again, I think it was after 10:30 till I saw the first fish caught on Saturday, and water conditions were absolutely PERFECT. But from then till 12:30 or so when we quit, it was quite clearly fishing decent. I was hooking up as were plenty of other people. Not "fast", but not slow either, and it was getting better by the minute. I'm concluding water temperature had more to do with the slow mornings than water color.

If you had any other "scouts" out, I wouldn't at all be shocked to hear that guys picked up a few fish on Elk Friday afternoon, and maybe did really well Saturday afternoon.