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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Winter fishing

Re: Winter fishing

Author: : Stenonema

Date: : 2013/11/6 23:18:10

URL:

Suckers, Fallfish they all need love too. Nothing wrong with that. Winter is an excellent time to fish. The grass isn't growing, the kids aren't playing baseball.

I caught my largest(dry fly) caught wild brown on March the 8th with snow on the ground. I was swinging streamers and dragging bottom with stonefly nymphs when I spotted the riser. Hook jawed 27.5 gator on an Early Black Stone (EBS) hatch. The EBS hatch includes different species and is very common, limestone or freestone. This hatch is overlooked and misunderstood by many in fact it was called a black caddis by everyone when I was a kid first fishing too it. To some it still is a caddis because that is what they call it. Snowflea is my favorite nickname. I've fished to rising fish in January on it but more commonly its a Feb to April event. I look forward to it every year and on a good year provides alot of dry fly fishing and it does not have to be warm but it helps if it is warming.

The larger stonefly nymphs are key for winter fishing. I like the Golden.

If it's seventy degrees and beautiful as all get out and the snow is melting. Stay home and tie flies. I'm not convinced it's solely a water temp thing. I've caught many different species in very cold water. But, I can't seem to resist fishing on such days as this and more often than not I can't even get a bump out of them. Could it be a PH thing? I don't know. Maybe one of the sharpies here has an opinion on that one.

Never let winter get past without doing some fishing. I remember twenty years ago fishing Penns and the only tracks were our own from week to week. That fishing was incredible, post spawn and hungry. Colder water cuts back on food options for predator fish. Winter is a lean time for big fish and this can work to our advantage, any Musky fisherman here. You can wake up a big brown with a big streamer on a cold, nose running day. In fact I have a picture somewhere that clearly shows the six inch snotcicle. I gotta stop, I can go on all night about Winter fishing. I love it.

Anyway, I strongly encourage you to fish the winter, it may become your favorite time to fish. I love the blue/green water.