

Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : selective bass

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Author: : bushwacker

Date: : 2008/12/30 16:22:34

URL:

Went for a walk to a local park that I fish in the summer for bass and panfish. It reminded me of a situation that I encountered this past summer. It was actually early fall and kinda chilly in the morning. I reached the river around 10am. Sky was overcast and air temperatures were just creeping into the 60's. As I looked down stream I noticed dainty rises throughout a deep run. Figuring they were chubs or maybe sunfish and not going to be too picky, I tied on a large attractor. Whatever they were, they wouldn't have anything to do with it. O.K., maybe I'm underestimating those species. Seeing size 22 cream midges floating around, I tied one on and gave it a whirl. The fly floated directly over a spot where a fish rose seconds before. The fish rose and took the midge greedily. Here's the surprise! When I played it to hand it turned out to be a 12" small mouth bass. It took an hour to work 1/4 mile down stream. I lost count but must have caught and released 15 smallmouth all rising selectively to size 22 cream midge. That day changed the way I approached bass fishing. Has anyone else ever experienced anything like this with bass or sunfish?