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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : no fish for me

Re: no fish for me

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URL:

Hi everyone -

Thanks for the encouragement for us beginners, and all the tips and reports. I used to fly fish a bit in the midwest, mostly for sunnies, but decided to pick it back up recently and go after PA trout. I live in Philly. Here's a summary of my results so far, as best I can remember:

February- visited French Creek FFO area off Sheeder Mill road. I read on this board that it had been stocked recently, but I did not even see a fish much less catch one. Also tried the Wissahickon, with no luck.

March- tried Ridley creek FFO area. Walked way back on this stream and fished what looked to me like very fishy water with nymphs, but again no fish. Walked back to the bridge and then noticed that that's where all the fish are. I guess they just dump em in there when they stock it. Spent an hour getting my Griffith's knot repeatedly rejected while a dozen fish ate midges off the surface. Another angler caught fish using the same fly I was using.

Tried Ridley again a week later. This time I stayed close to the bridge. Had a fish on briefly on a nymph but he got off. Otherwise no luck, fish were rising again but refusing my offerings.

April- tried the Wissahickon on opening day. Water looked like chocolate milk and it was super windy. No fish on the fly, switched to spinning gear and caught two.

Last Thursday afternoon - went back to French Creek C&R FFO area. Fished for like four or five hours in the afternoon, explored a lot of the creek. Was a lovely, lovely afternoon to be out. Finally caught a trout!!! A rainbow, about eight inches, off a tiny copper john in a riffle. The most beautiful trout I ever saw. Mostly because my fly rod is no longer a virgin. Then another guy started fishing below me in a pool and catching a bunch of fish while I caught nothing.

In conclusion: 6 trips, one eight inch trout. This fly-fishing stuff is pretty hard. In particular, I find it hard to tell what I'm doing wrong. When I can see the fish, as in Ridley, it's a bit easier. But in the other streams I'm just casting to likely looking pools and hoping there's a fish in there.

Just wanted to share this, in solidarity with the other beginners who are having a hard time catching fish. You're not alone.