

Presidents Update



Hi,

Well, October seems to have been quite a bit better.

The Tongariro having been going well and the rest of the rivers with quite a bit of water in them all holding trout.

The Coromandel is starting to fire with some larger double figure snapper being caught. (that is in lbs !) Just showing my age. It should be a good omen for next weeks visit to the Coromandel of the Club. I am writing this a week before the visit.

Congratulations to Arnie on his huge 29.9Lbs snapper, a picture of which is on page 9. Got to be a Club record.

Also thanks to Tony Swainson on his book of "Tangled Lines". A really great read and a great present for any fisherman with Xmas on the way.

See you out there.

Colin (Tank) Sangster

President

Brown Trout: Are they a cause for later runs of Rainbow Trout ??

Rainbow Trout are more prized in the Taupo Fishery than Brown Trout (eating qualities !!) and I recall that there was even an attempt to cull brown trout from the Managamawhitiwhiti stream as they were deemed unsuitable in the fishery.

We know that:

1. Brown trout spawn earlier than rainbow trout in every Taupo river.
2. Brown trout select different food to rainbow trout and have seemingly been unaffected by the downturn in the rainbow trout fishery, brown trout feed along the littoral zone of the lake and in the lower parts of rivers to feed. On the other hand rainbow feed mainly in the pelagic zone of the lake. Therefore, the food supply of rainbow trout is more affected by the limnological processes in the lake than the food of brown. If brown would feed in the pelagic zone they would also suffer the shortage of food.
3. There seem to be more brown trout caught in the early part of the season than was previously the case.
4. The rainbow trout depends on smelt for their main food supply.

Could it be that brown trout are feeding on juvenile rainbow spawned during the early part of the spawning season, but not so much on those from the later part of the run? If it is the case then the progeny of later spawning rainbow have the best chance of survival explaining the shift in the timing of the run. However, this life cycle may also be disadvantageous. Juvenile rainbow trout when entering the lake need to find smelt quickly to survive. If they enter the lake when smelt are not spawning (between May & October) they may not find smelt quickly enough and die.

A study of the feeding behaviour of brown trout could shed some light on the impact that brown trout could have on the shift in timing of the spawning runs of rainbow trout. This is possible through the measurement of stable isotopes based on the principle that 'you are what you eat'. A study of the liver can tell what the fish has been mainly eating during the previous week. A study of the flesh tells what has been mainly eaten during the previous month. If such a study showed that the brown trout were feeding on the juvenile of rainbow trout that were produced during the early part of the spawning then we would be able to link that fact to the later runs of rainbow trout.

Interesting—Food for thought ??

‘Out Around the Great Lake.

Early morning (change of light) seems to do the trick out on the Great Lake !!

Some beautiful fish are being landed at the moment with great colouring, the usual lures of Spotty Gold, Black Toby and Baby Brown are working well plus flies like Yellow Lady and Green Orbit. However once the sun comes over the eastern hills you have to move out into deeper water.

Stream mouths are also fishing OK but there is better fishing early on at the lower pools. Once the streams have cleared, fish seem to be moving quite fast into the upper reaches of the streams, especially the Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo.

The fishing should remain fairly steady until mid December when all the holiday boats and crowds will scare the fish into deeper waters !!

Remember, get out there, dry lines do not catch fish.

A Report from Richard Shrimpton — Lake Taupo Advisory Board.

As predicted, September saw a significant increase in the number of spawning trout present in the region's rivers. The Tongariro River in particular saw decent runs, at last, of rainbow trout pass through the lower and middle reaches after what has been a fairly settled July and August. A similar pattern was observed back in 2005 after another relatively dry late winter/ early spring period before the rains finally arrived in September to provide some exceptional angling opportunities. This year we didn't see any decent rain really until October, but the fish started entering the rivers and the fishing has certainly improved.

The estimated catch rate for the Tongariro during September was 0.38 fish per hour (1 fish every 2.6hrs) which was a considerable improvement over last months catch rate of just 1 fish every 7.1hrs. The lower river below SH1 bridge saw a lot of the action during September as the major spring runs commenced. Fish kept by anglers on the Tongariro averaged 467mm & 1.3kg with an average condition factor of 45.3.

Those fish that were lucky enough to make it through the barrage of anglers at the Bridge Pool on their way upstream to the Waipa Stream (a tributary of the Tongariro River near Rangipo) averaged 460mm & 1.2kg with an average condition factor of 42.4. Overall, a total of 251 rainbows were trapped for the month of September. This is down considerably on the 700 trapped during the same period last year but with over 200 rainbows trapped already during the first 4 days of October, it is finally shaping up to be a big month at Waipa!

Counts of spawning fish in the upper reaches of the rivers have also indicated a significant increase in the number of fish present since August. The largest count so far was made in the upper reaches of the Tauranga Taupo river and it was encouraging to see that lots of spawning had already occurred. The numbers are starting to build in the middle reaches of this river and the TT river should really fire once it starts to clear. Similar increases were also observed in the smaller rivers such as the Waimarino and Waiootaka as the numbers of spawning fish build to an expected peak in October and November.

With the rivers in flood at the time of writing, anglers should expect some excellent river fishing during October as the rivers start to clear and although the fish are still on the small side, the condition has certainly improved over recent years. Some exceptional days can be expected on the Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo rivers in particular, so get out there and make the most of it. A dry line does not catch fish !!

Recipe of the Month

Herbed Mussels with Soused Red Onions

These should be freely available next week !

Ingredients:

800gms live greenshell mussels	Freshly ground black pepper
500mlm (2 cups) dry white wine.	
1 red onion (peeled and sliced)	1/4 cup flaky sea salt
2 garlic cloves (chopped)	2 tbsp chopped Italian parsley
2 tbsp chopped dill	45gms (3 tbsp) butter

Method:

Wash mussels & remove beards.

In a saucepan or wok over a medium heat place wine, red onion, garlic and salt. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes to slightly cook red onion and garlic.

Add mussels and cook for 15 to 20 minutes or until all mussels are open. Discard those which don't open.

Add parsley and dill, and butter and pepper to taste.

Serve in soup bowls with lots of juice.

Your Editors Ramblings !

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Hi there,

Well, we done it !! It was close.

This must be the month of huge snapper catches, Shawn with his 2 nice fish of 7.32 & 3.8kgs caught about 10 days ago on soft baits at Papa Aroha, then Arne with his 13.565kgs fish, caught, I presume off Opotiki and then I read an article from the Taranaki Daily News where Allan Simons of New Plymouth landed a 15kgs fish surfcasting !! (That's around 33Lbs)

The Club has booked a mussel barge at Coromandel this coming Saturday morning—it will be interesting to see what is caught by the group fishing there. Shirley and I are going up there for 10 days chasing scallops and some big reds to supplement our diet. We do not need them of the huge size tho. Back here in Taupo by all accounts you need to be out at day-break for an hour of fast fishing then it all goes deeper and quiet. Lovely fish tho are being landed at that early hour of the day !!

Russell

What's on and When ??

Committee Meetings:

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 6.30pm

2011

October	2nd	Club Day
October	8th	Whakatane fishing trip !!
October	11th	Committee Meeting
November	4th, 5th & 6th	Papa Aroha (Coromandel)
	5th	A Salt Water Club Day ??
November	8th	Committee Meeting
December	9th	Christmas Function
December	11th	Childrens Xmas Party with Santa !!
December	13th	Committee Meeting
March 2012	24/25th	Fishing Tournament

Membership Draw

September	16th	Andrew Christmas
September	23rd	Barbara Ives
September	30th	Charlie Sangster (J)
October	7th	Mike Knox
October	21st	Robbie Sangster (J)
October	28th	Quentin Colebourne

Cleaning !!

Needs to be done !!

October Debbie Colebourne
November Vanessa Jacobs
December Russell Rountree

Bar Roster

October	21st	Shaun Nielsen
October	28th	Russell Rountree
November	4th	Cabin 7—Papa Aroha !!
November	11th	Leanne Nielsen
November	18th	Debbie Colebourne
November	25th	Shawn Sangster
December	2nd	Arne Rodsjo
December	9th	T.B.A.
December	16th	T.B.A.

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

We have :	Polo Shirts	\$ 35.00
	Caps	\$ 20.00
	Logos	\$ 15.00

And a new item- Beanie's, Wool \$ 20.00

And

Sabakis—size 4 & 6 (Pink or Chartreuse) 3 for \$ 9.00

Braid scissors \$ 3.00 each !!