

New South Wales Rod Fishers' Society



Over 100 years of Fly Fishing - Founded 1904

Winter Fishing at Lake Narambulla ... August 2010

Gents, the last winter field trip for RFS members to Lake Narambulla was held on the 16th and 17th August and has come and gone.

So what's new down there?

The lake is gently overflowing, the top end is very discoloured, yellow clay comes to mind as a fair description! Sadly, that made the top section of the lake virtually unfishable.

Whilst we were there, the discoloured water reached to the fence line which runs down to the lake from Flyfisher Cottage.

Nick Tattersall picked up two nice rainbows of around 4 pounds at the colour-change line one morning.

Weather wise we had a high pressure system sitting over us, reading around 1020 or better throughout. Winds SW to NW, bearable.

In addition to Nick's two fish, another three rainbows were caught, two between 12 noon and 1 pm, one at dusk. All between 3 ½ and 4 ½ pounds.

Outside of these times there was not much visible activity. Little wonder, as the fish still seem to be feeding on these little 2-3 inch carp.

Every fish we kept had eaten them. Even a large rainbow only needs to catch 3 or 4 of those baitfish to make a meal – all a matter of a lazy 30 minute feeding spree.

That's what it felt like on Wednesday – the dam wall fishing “dead” all morning, despite ideal conditions (cloud cover, steady breeze / ripple). Then, at 12 noon, the first swirl – then more swirls along the shoreline within easy casting distance – takes and hook-ups – and then all “dead” again after 12.30.

The presence of maybe 100 resident cormorants and two pelicans give a good indication of the enormous food supply available in Lake Narambulla.

From that perspective, the existing trout stocking programme can probably be increased quite significantly without affecting growth rates!

Cheers, Gerhard.