

Fishing has been steady if not spectacular over recent days and weeks. I and my clients have caught good numbers of solid trout in the 4 to 7 ½ pound class in both crystal clear water in the northern portions of the area and in the stained waters further south. Most of the best fish bit sinking Fat Boys and Original Corkies in natural colors and have been found tight to area shorelines in water less than waist deep. Favorite colors in Corkies have been copper top, pearl/black back, strawberry/black back and dayglo. On windy days when the Corky bite is good, we are using Originals and bending the tail to about 75° in order to keep them down in the water better. On the toughest days, or when the bite in prime-time slows, we're switching over to MirrOlure Provoker soft plastics and rigging them on eighth or sixteenth ounce heads and catching plenty of good trout in the same areas. Best colors in the clear water have been molting, pearl and watermelon/red glitter. In less-clear water, purple/chartreuse and pink have worked better. When the weather is warm and winds are light, topwaters have worked best, particularly baby trout Skitterwalks. I expect more and more topwater action in the coming weeks as the weather warms. Those looking to catch eating-sized trout without much effort will find the fishing in the off-colored streaks along the edge of the swag in the Upper Lagoon to be easy on most days. Best bet out there is to use a soft plastic on a quarter ounce head if it's windy. On calmer days, topwaters, twitch baits and crank baits will catch plenty.