

Just coming off a very successful trout fishing trip, and getting a little bit board fishing my traditional walleye spots I decided to try something a little different at Clear Lake yesterday. I fished a spot I don't often fish and was rewarded greatly! The first 5 cast yielded white bass in the 14-15" range. Great fighters and the action didn't slow too much from there. Ended the night with around a dozen whites, a dozen walleyes(2 keepers), 2 sublegal muskies, and a bonus largemouth bass! Not bad for about an hour and a half. The DNR stopped by and checked me and said the fishing had been slow for the past two weeks and was really surprised with how well I did. Just goes to show you the importance of being versatile. Fish are still eating you just have to change with the seasons as they are bound to. A lot of muskies are being caught at the lake right now in pretty shallow water, (3-6 ft). Also walleyes are still going good on all the traditional spots, the reefs, the north edge weedline, ventura grade have all been good but don't sit in one spot and expect to catch fish all day long. In the summer now you need to move around, you will catch a nice fish or two in a spot, then when it goes cold move on to somewhere else. That's not to say you won't get a dozen quick fish in a row, but once the action slows move on. The Winnebago, Cedar, and Shell Rock rivers are still quite dirty from the floods. I did get out on the West Fork of the Cedar last weekend though, and caught one northern and lost a couple of dandy smallmouth bass. The trout fishing has been a little different with the muddy water but has still been quite good. Don't be afraid to switch over to some live bait or power bait if necessary in the cloudy water. The last few trout fishing trips have been rewarding with some natural browns along with a couple of bonus brood fish being caught. The cloudy water might be helping to make these wiser fish a little less skittish. I am expecting some very large catfish to be caught around here soon as well. Haven't heard of it happening yet but it's just a matter of time. Bluegills have still been readily feeding in the shallows of our area pits and Beeds Lake along with a few bonus largemouth bass. They are biting well on a small piece of nightcrawler or small flies. So don't quit fishing now that the spring bite is over, just change up a bit and get in on the summer action!