

April 13th, 2009.

Open water fishing has kicked off with a bang! Had three trips in a row to Clear Lake with a musky catch last week. All nice fish, a 44, 37, and 39". Also quite a few small walleyes being caught with a few larger ones in between. Got a 23" and an 18" on Sunday. I've been having my best luck with quarter ounce jigs with 3 in twister tails. For the smaller walleye an 1/8 oz jig might be more productive, also increasing your chances at a white or yellow bass which should start picking up any day now. Anglers are getting a few bonus bullheads over at the grade off of small minnows. Don't let their reputation fool you, with the cold water right now these are very tasty fish!

Walleyes had been biting on the Winnebago along with a few muskies when the water was up. They were catching both around the dams and creek mouths. Since the water has gone down I think they have moved downstream. If you take the time to find them you may have some good luck or wait for a rain and the water to come up and they should move back up stream.

One bonus with the low water is our trout streams are running crystal clear right now. The DNR has resumed their weekly stockings so there are plenty of fish to be caught. Even previous to this there were decent amounts of fish left over from last year. These carry over fish present a nice challenge, pretty much the same as a wild trout by now spending at least 6 months or longer in the streams, so it takes a little more effort to fool them. Traditional baits as salmon eggs and nightcrawlers have been producing well as have small spinners and tiny jigs, both tube jigs and hair jigs. Hope you get some time to get out. For now, see you later, I have some more fish to go catch!