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West Michigan Rivers-Fishing Report

February 23rd, 2010

Ok Weather and Fishing

Pere Marquette Temps - 30's Water Conditions - low & clear

>>>A warm snap with rain would set us up quickly for good to great fishing, bringing in a fresh batch of new steelhead. The PM has fish around and the fishing hasn't been too bad but new eager steelhead would be great. *Kevin Morlock*

Big Manistee Temps - 35 Water Conditions - low & clear

>>>Good to fair fishing with good fish numbers throughout the system. Water levels are low and clear, using stealth is key. Using floats with small eggs in washed pink or yellows with small black stoneflies has been working well. *Jamie Clous*

Muskegon Temps - 33 Water Conditions - low average

>>>The Muskegon launch sites are icy. Winter trout fishing has been good, #16 scuds in olive or pink and stonefly nymphs have been productive. With the low clear water, the steelhead have been wary... small nymphs on the bottom of deep runs has been the best bet. *Phil Cusey*



Spring Stoneflies -- Our first hatch of the year in west Michigan that is important to steelhead anglers are a couple species of black or dark stoneflies, they range from size 10-20, but most are in the 12-14 range. The steelhead are not critical on size and many feel that a bit larger stonefly pattern will produce more action, stonefly patterns tied on size 6-8 egg hooks are a good choice.

Morlock's Spring Stone

Hook... Mustad C67S, size 6
Tail... turkey tail
Ribbing... light copper wire
Body... 3-5 strands of peacock herl
Hackle... pheasant neck
Back... *turkey tail

*This is the same turkey tail piece that was used for the tail, now brought forward for the back.



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