SPOONPLUGGING STUDY GROUP JUNE 17, 2004

"SPEED CONTROL STORY"

Some of us remember when Don Dixon came to Grand Rapids in 1988 and gave a 2-day seminar on Structure Fishing based on the teachings of Buck Perry. A series of videos were made of a similar presentation that were seen by many.

The program subject was "Speed Control". We watched a portion of Don Dixons' video about "Tools and Controls" where he gave examples of how important it is to our fishing. One situation where he was fishing with Buck Perry up north in early spring demonstrated how precise it needs to be sometimes. After trolling Spoonplugs, casting both ¼ ounce and 1/8 ounce jigs through a section of a river and only catching one small fish, Buck still felt that the fish were there. On the next drift casting 1/8 ounce jigs, Buck began catching many fish and Don was still drawing a blank. Buck finally disclosed to Don that he was slowly swimming his jig rather than jumping it, a slight difference in speed. That made the difference between a few fish and hundreds caught!_ In the video Don also told about the opposite extreme with very hot weather and warm water. Minnows have been clocked at 35mph for short spurts and what adult fish can't catch a minnow? He described situations where 10-13 mph trolling speeds was all that would get bass to strike. Casting baits cranking as fast as possible was not fast enough! If we don't check all speeds (as well as depths), we aren't fishing thoroughly.

Chase Klinesteker