

Low water temperatures have been in place for several days now. As I type this, the water at the Baffin Buoy has been reading 46 to 47 degrees for most of the last 24 hours. Air temps are cold too, and the north wind has been blowing steadily. For now, the conditions make it hard to function, or impossible to justify leaving the dock at all. On the other hand, cold snaps like this one do a couple of good things for the fishing most of the time. One, they better acclimate the fish to cold water, so they become a little easier to catch the remainder of the winter. In other words, they tend to bounce back quicker from cold fronts from here on out. And, cold fronts like these tend to concentrate big trout in familiar areas, where they may remain throughout the winter. Last, wintery events like this one often cause a prolonged "shut down" in the feeding activity of the fish. The shut down is often followed by a ravenously extreme chewing session! I look for just such an event to take place over the next couple of days. Bookings have been a little slow, so I still have some primo dates left in February and more in March and April. Reports of poor fishing in the area are generally exaggerated. I've noticed an upturn in the fishing for big trout lately (had a 6+ and 7 in the last 3 trips) and have reliable reports from others who've caught several fish in the 7 to 9 pound class. Some of the water in the area is crystal clear, and the brown water in the front of Baffin is not particularly bad either. Most of the great runs of fishing I've had in this area were made in water mildly tainted by brown tide....