FIZZING BLOATED BASS

NOT EVERY FISH CAUGHT DEEP WILL NEED TO BE FIZZED!

EVEN SHALLOW CAUGHT FISH CAN NEED TO FIZZED!

After catching and placing your fish in the live well wait a few minutes and check on the fish. If the fish is swimming on its side and cannot right itself that is a good indication that it needs to have gas released from its swim bladder. There are two acceptable methods to release this excess gas. Both involve inserting a needle into the fishes swim bladder. It is important to note that all the air does not need to be removed, do not squeeze the fish to help rid the excess gas. On fish under three pounds 4-5 seconds is usually sufficient, on fish over three pounds 5-6 seconds is a good time frame. When using either method after the initial fizzing check on the fish in 10 or 15 minutes to see if it needs to be fizzed again.
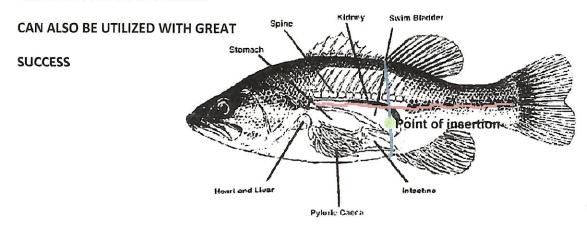
THROUGH THE MOUTH METHOD

Hold the fish in your live well with the mouth open (as you would by lipping it) looking straight down the mouth, find the horizontal line formed by the "crushers" (see photo) dip the syringe in the water to fill it then carefully insert the needle vertically just above the horizontal line at a depth of approx 1/2" to 1 1/2" and bubbles should show in the syringe. Count the seconds off and when the number is reached hold onto the syringe and let go of the fish, it will fall free of the needle back into your live well.

THROUGH THE SIDE METHOD

Hold the fish on its side in the live well, lay the fishes pectoral fin flat to the fishes side. Count back 2 or 3 scales from the end of the fin and approx. five scales down from the lateral line, in line with the fin. Putting the beveled edge of the needle against the fishes side slide the needle in at a 45 degree angle under the scale, then stand the needle up to almost 90 degrees and push it into the air bladder. Lower the fish into the water, bubbles should show, count down the seconds then remove the needle.

THE USE OF ANAL FIN WEIGHTS

CAN ALSO BE UTILIZED WITH GREAT

SUCCESS

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEeQrsHcwf8