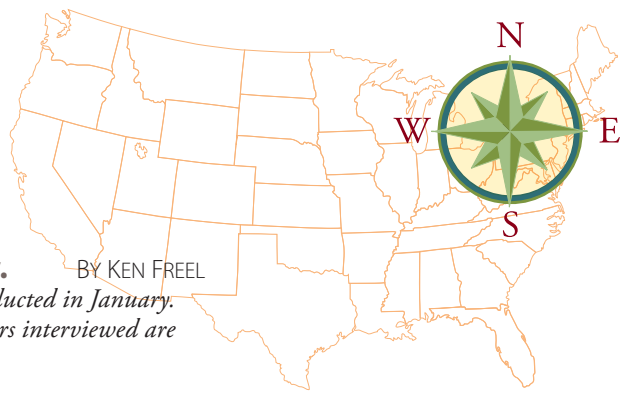
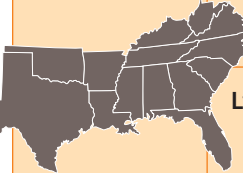

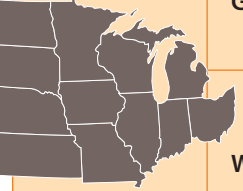
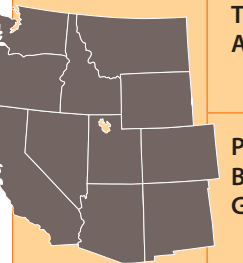


What's Hot Where



A spot check of what's selling around the country.

(Ed. Note: Interviews for this month's "What's Hot Where" were conducted in January. Comments address what is selling at the time of the interviews. Retailers interviewed are selected at random.)

Where	The Expert	Dominant Fishery	Rods & Reels
South 	James Couch, Couch's Trading Post; Charlotte, N.C.	carp, catfish, stripers	Abu Garcia 6500Cs; Bass Pro Shops rods (7-1/2 foot, medium action)
	Lynn Davis, Lowcountry Outfitters; Hilton Head, S.C.	redfish, trout, sheepshead	Shimano's Convergence rods and Baitrunner reels; Quantum reels, Shakespeare Ugly Stiks
Northeast 	Ron White, Fisherman's Corner; Ulster Park, N.Y.	crappie, yellow perch, pickerel	Shakespeare and Browning combos; Mitchell 308 spinning reels
	John Bogan, Brielle Bait & Tackle; Brielle, N.J.	stripers, blackfish	Tica surf rods, Daiwa combos; Shakespeare and Shimano 4500 Baitrunner reels
Midwest 	Jerry Rajewski, Morgan's Sports; Grand Blanc, Mich.	bluegill, crappie, pike	HT Enterprises combos
	Earl Hillman, Hillman's Store; Waskish, Minn.	walleye, crappie, pike	Upper Red Lake combos; assorted ice fishing rods/reels
West 	George Wistos, The Belligerent Duck; Alturas, Calif.	rainbow trout	Combos by Shakespeare and Eagle Claw; Berkley rods; Shimano and Daiwa reels
	Patricia Budesilich, Backlash Tackle LLC; Grants Pass, Ore.	winter steelies, rainbow trout	Shimano's Scimitar rods and Saros F reels; Okuma Inspira spinning reels

Line	Lures	Terminal Tackle	Overview
Berkley Trilene XL (15- to 18-pound tests)	Store-branded catfish bait; generic spinner-baits and buzz-baits (1/4- to 1-ounce sizes)	Gamakatsu and Owner hooks (4/0); Sampo swivels	"We've got good fishing year-round for bass, white perch and stripers."
Berkley Big Game and PowerPro	Berkley Gulp and Heddon Zara Spooks	Locally made sinkers; Mustad and Owner hooks	"The inshore fishing has been great for redfish, trout and sheepshead."
Berkley Trilene (4- to 8-pound tests)	Berkley Gulp; Rapala and Storm plugs	Eagle Claw and Gamakatsu circle hooks; Water Gremlin split shot	"It's been hit and miss for yellow perch and crappie."
PowerPro and Sufix braid (40- to 65-pound tests); Berkley Big Game and Ande Back Country Mono (30- to 40-pound tests)	Eddie Stone soft eels; metal plugs from Ava and Skippy's	Gamakatsu, Mustad and Eagle Claw Lazer Sharp hooks (octopus and baitholder styles); Spro and Tsunami swivels	"The bite is not bad for stripers in the surf, and we had a 16-pound blackfish weighed in recently, as well."
Berkley Trilene XL	Northland ice jigs and K&E worms	Eagle Claw hooks and swivels; Danielson split shot	"It's a slow time of the year, but ice fishermen are catching bluegill, crappie and pike."
Upper Red Lake line and Cajun Red lines	Tear Drop ice jigs	Generic hooks; Danielson split shot	"The bite is pretty good for walleye, crappie and northern pike through the ice."
Berkley Trilene, Stren Original, Maxima and P-Line	Mepps Aglias, Worden's Rooster Tails and Luhr Jensen Krocodile spoons	Eagle Claw, Mustad and Gamakatsu hooks (No.6 to No. 10); Water Gremlin split shot	"Right now it's cold and icy. We were catching rainbows before the storm."
McCoy copolymer line; Berkley Trilene Big Game (10- to 12-pound tests)	Luhr Jensen Hot Shots (size 30); EZ-eggs	Gamakatsu red octopus hooks (No. 4 to No. 6); Slinkies split shot tubing	"It's been pretty good for winter steelies, but the river is a little low and clear right now."

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