What's Hot

A spot check of what's selling around the country. (*Ed. Note: Interviews for this month's "What's Hot Where" were conducted in July.* BY KEN FREEL Comments address what is selling at the time of the interviews. Retailers interviewed are selected at random.)

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Where	The Expert	Dominant Fishery	Rods & Reels	Stren Original (6-, 8- and 10-pound tests)	Bandit hard baits and Zoom Trick Worms	Gamakatsu, Eagl and Owner hook through 5/0 size Eagle Claw and E Weights sinkers
South	Bill Matthews, Arkansas Rod & Reel; Little Rock, Ark.	largemouth, smallmouth	G.Loomis, St. Croix and Powell rods (6 1/2- to 7-foot lengths, medium to medium-heavy action); Abu Garcia Revo baitcasters and Shimano Stradic spinning reels	Stren Clear Blue (8-pound test)	Yamamoto Senkos	ounce)
	Arnold Eversole, Beaver Lake Marina; Lawrenceburg, Ky.	bluegill, shellcracker, catfish	Shakespeare and Zebco 202 and 33 combos, Shimano Symetre spinning reels	and Spiderwire Invisi-Braid (10-pound test)	and Zara Spooks	Gamakatsu worr Daiichi XPoint ho Sampo swivels
Northeast	Patrick Russell, B-E Fishing Tackle Inc.; Ontario, N.Y.	bass, salmon, trout	Quantum Array spinning reels; Pflueger Trion rods and Quantum PT series rods (7-foot lengths)	Berkley Trilene and Stren Original (10-pound test)	Bandit 300 series crankbaits and Reaction Innovations Sweet Beaver (green pumpkin and watermelon seed)	Gamakatsu wide hooks and Bullet Weights (3/16 to ounce)
TEL	Jim Neary, Jim Neary's Bait & Tackle; Kirkwood, Pa.	largemouth, catfish, smallmouth	Shakespeare Ugly Stiks (6 1/2- to 7-foot lengths) and Tica reels	Stren Original and Berkley Trilene (8- to 17-pound	Sonny's stinkbaits for catfish	Generic treble he and heavy sinker Deep Six
Midwest	Patricia Keeney, Keeney's Sporting Goods; Elgin, III.	catfish, largemouth	Zebco 33 and 202 rod-and-reel combos	tests)	Rapala Shad	
	Val Cook, Cold Springs Inc.; Orr, Minn.	walleye, northern pike, crappie, perch, bass	Zebco combos and Shakespeare President spinning reels; Shakespeare Ugly Stik and Shimano rods	Berkley Trilene and Stren Original (4- to 12-pound tests)	Raps, Dardevle spoons, Johnson Silver Minnows and Berkley Gulp	Berkley and Eagle Claw I sinkers and lead
West	Leighton Pruitt, Zia Sporting Goods; Farmington, N.M.	bass, salmon, trout	Ross fly fishing reels; St. Croix and Ross fly fishing rods; Shakespeare Ugly Stiks	Stren Clear Blue and Lo-Vis Green (4- to 12-pound tests)	Pautzke Bait Co. Green Label salmon eggs, Yamamato Senkos and Jake's Stream-A-Lure and Spin-A-Lure	Eagle Claw hook Danielson split s (size 9)
	Jesse Lim, Saguaro Tackle & Archery; Tucson, Ariz.	bass, trout	Shimano spinning combos	McCoy Mean Green Xtreme	Yamamoto Senkos; Roboworms and Bomber Fat	Eagle Claw trout (sizes 8 and 10) a treble hooks; Wa

Line

Berkley

tests)

and Seaguar

fluorocarbon

(15- to 20-pound

Lures

Generic jigs, NetBait Paca

Innovations Sweet Beaver

Craws and Reaction

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Terminal Tackle	Overview
Gamakatsu hooks	"It's been pretty good. Getting
and Tru-Tungsten	better since the river is returning
sinkers	to normal levels."
Gamakatsu, Eagle Claw and Owner hooks (2/0 through 5/0 sizes) and Eagle Claw and Bullet Weights sinkers (1/4 ounce)	"Bluegill, shellcracker and catfish are doing well in the lake, along with some bass."
Gamakatsu worm hooks,	"It's been fair to middlin',
Daiichi XPoint hooks and	although the largemouth bass
Sampo swivels	fishing has been great."
Gamakatsu wide gap	"Largemouth bass fishing has
hooks and Bullet	been excellent, along with some
Weights (3/16 to 1/4	smallmouth. The catfishing has
ounce)	been phenomenal."
Generic treble hooks	"The river's way up above its
and heavy sinkers by	banks, and the fishing's been
Deep Six	slow because of lots of rain."
Berkley	"The fishing's been excellent, but
and Eagle Claw hooks,	not a lot of people are coming
sinkers and leaders	because of gas prices."
Eagle Claw hooks and	"Everything is biting, including
Danielson split shots	bass and pike. The salmon are
(size 9)	hitting really well for trollers."
Eagle Claw trout hooks	"Bass and trout are biting. People
(sizes 8 and 10) and	are reducing their length of
treble hooks; Water	travel because of gas prices, so
Gremlin No. 7 split shots;	more are seeking trout in the
Betts foam bobbers	local lake."