

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Tippet size selection

Re: Tippet size selection

Author: : fly_flinger

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URL:

I wouldn't see how a lighter tippet would reduce spooking fish. Like Jay said, the fish can see the tippet regardless what size it is. What a lighter tippet does, like Jay mentioned, is gives you a better drift because it moves with the current of the water better than a stiffer material. If you throw a bad cast that lands heavy on the water, you're going to spook fish.

The Gunpowder Mantra is very similar to one used at the Little Lehigh by some. Yet I have never used 7x there and cannot remember the last time I didn't catch fish. Jay's comments about presentation are very important. You can, in almost every case, catch the same trout on 5x that you can on 7x. You might have to use a different approach/casting position to ensure you don't get drag but you can still catch that same fish with thicker tippet.

Good information Jay. Anyone who is just getting into fly fishing should try fishing heavier tippets and work on your presentation before going to a smaller size tippet. 9 times out of 10 it's not the tippet causing you not to catch fish.

Disclaimer- I have no analytical or statistical data to reinforce my "9 out of 10 times" claim. But it probably isn't too far off.