

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

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I've been using mouse flies for years and consider them great fun (although I've had mixed results with catching fish). I get more bass on them but have taken some good sized limestone browns on mice. I like them for specialty presentation situations where I want to get a large fly back under a tree or bridge. The mouse, if given enough slack, will drift back under cover and can then be retrieved back on the surface. I usually use a steady retrieve down and across - the goal being a noticeable "V" wake. Mice are a common, readily available prey species year round on PA streams and I don't think it should come as a surprise that big trout will hammer 'em. It's not uncommon to catch a large (over 12") wild trout and discover a mouse tail protruding from his mouth or have one show up when a fish is killed and cleaned. They really do eat these critters.