

Subject: : Tips and Tricks Topic: : Tight Sticking Erie Steelhead Re: Tight Sticking Erie Steelhead

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The first couple year that I steelhead fished, I almost exclusively high stick nymphed them. I think its a great technique when performed correctly. My only argument against it would be that often guys lose their technique, while doing it, and rather than presenting the fly and leader, in a perpendicular angle towards the streambed, they over-reach the cast and swing the flies, causing lining. Lining often results in snagging the fish in the mouth, which is okay with some guys, but I don't think its all that sporting. No doubt that foul hooking fish is an inevitability, and the example Ryan gave of setting the hook on a fish that visabily takes your fly, only to have it pull and snag another fish is a prime example. I guess my point is, and I know JayL has mentioned this in the past, but using an indicator allows for a perpendicular presentation of your leader and flies. This, in turn, limits lining and gives direct contact with the fly, which has helped my hook up ratio.