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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Leaders for Nymphing

Re: Leaders for Nymphing

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You definitely need to design your nymph rig to meet your needs. The only reason to use a tapered leader is to help the flies extend after the cast. This isn't always that important if you are flip casting and making shorter casts. If you need to get down deep fast in heavy water you need to drop right down to the finer tippet right away. When we nymph the Missouri at high water we build a simple leader with about 2 feet of orange amnesia tied with a surgeon's knot to 8-10 feet of 2x maxima (more subtle) with a bunch of lead. Not glamorous but the only way to get the flies down deep in the current to where the trout are. heavier tapered leaders have too much surface area and are more affected by the current making it harder to get the flies down.