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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Approaching A Spring Creek Volume 1: Picking your battles and controlling your wake

Re: Approaching A Spring Creek Volume 1: Picking your battles and controlling your wake

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2012/1/6 11:10:15

URL:

Sal, of course that was tongue in cheek, especially the parts about claiming superiority and caring about numbers one day, and size the next. Meant for comic effect.

But really, what I said has some merit, IMO. Your post was very informative and a great read. And what you did was go out and test yourself, which is fun to do. For me, it's not my main style, but I certainly take on challenges like that from time to time. Variety is the spice of life.

I'm merely trying to describe an alternate approach to the situation, to our entire sport really. A different style, though your "pick your battles" mantra still rings true, it's just that I don't just pick battles I can win, I pick battles I can DEFINITELY win and do so quickly, so that I can get more battles. Sas's post kind of reminds me of me not too awfully long ago, and led me to back up my TIC post in a little more serious fashion, as it actually has some merit.

I fully admit I'm not a super fishermen in the sense that you are, in being able to figure out the best way to approach an individual fish in a difficult situation. Most of us aren't.

But what I am good at is recognizing the situation and going with the flow. Embrace your strengths and weaknesses and play to them, put yourself in good situations. Your stream/pool was difficult under the conditions, and the best fish in it are dang near impossible for us mere mortals. Instead of taking on mission impossible, there's also merit in my last sentence. Knowing when to fish where is a huge key to my own success. Seek out easier situations. And with that, the skill is in KNOWING where you will find easier situations.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with skipping the difficult pool and moving onto easier ones. Realize the difficulty quickly, and move. Don't think twice, just do it. That's why covering water is so important. Put yourself into as many easy pools as possible in the time frame you have. In the 30 minutes you may spend figuring out (successfully) a difficult pool, you also could have fished 5 easier pools, and likely caught more fish and perhaps still gotten a good one.

And if the whole stream is difficult on that day, then the same concept applies to moving to a new stream. Do it, don't think twice, go find easier fish.

But as you pass by the difficult ones, put them in your mental log. Later that evening, back in your living room, you're gonna think about em, and you're gonna think about WHEN they will become easier. It's gonna bug you. And when you see the weather turn to your favor, you'll find a way to be there, and you'll catch those fish.

And in the end, you realize that you did better on day 1 than you otherwise would have, and you set yourself up

well for day 2, and both days ended up being successful.

Just another approach to fly fishing. Everyone should come up with their own style based on what they enjoy. Sal and I both pick our battles and thats a heck of a lesson. Sal picks difficult battles and is good at winning them. I pick easy battles and strive to fight more of them.