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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : First Time for Steelhead this Fall

Re: First Time for Steelhead this Fall

Author: : PhilC

Date: : 2012/8/29 13:28:06

URL:

For egg patterns I would suggest checking the actual size of the egg not just going by hook size...some people tie larger/smaller eggs on different size hooks.

A 10mm egg is about the average, esp after the kings have spawned. You might be able to get away with 12mm for the early/fresh fish. If they get picky try going smaller to 8mm. As the season goes on the browns will spawn too and their eggs are smaller. At the end of Oct the king run should be past its peak and there will be tons of eggs in the water.

Trike23, uh oh the bead discussion...hope no one freaks out haha. I heard calling it the "Alaska rig" eases the convo a bit. I'm considering this year though, so sick of tying glo bugs which I can't hardly consider a fly either.

I often ditch the indicator/suspender and just tight line nymph. The steelies hold in some incredibly fast water and you need weight to get down. I'm not too good at this in typically trout water but with the extra weight on its easier to feel it tick the bottom/rocks. It seems like the fish hook themselves a lot but I get in the "zone" where the hook set might be a subconscious reaction.

Low light (sun up/down) is always a good bet. It can be worth it to stand in the dark for while to hold your spot. You have to wait as fishing in the dark is not permitted. Check the spots along the bank first as fish will hold there, especially with high flows.

Its a good idea to have a plan for when you hook a fish. The steelies are incredibly powerful. You're chances of yanking them up through strong currents are slim to none. If you can walk it out and get downstream of the fish it easier to land them in them below where hopefully there's some slower water.

I would definitely second the studded boot. I got away with it for a while but got stuck one day and Beeber had to save me in the middle of a fast run...my pride was somewhat tarnished (haha)