

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : 7'6 Rod

Re: 7'6 Rod

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URL:

Stagger, Swattie's first post is dead nuts.

FWIW, my main brookie rod is a 7'6" Cortland GRX. 4/5 wt. I have two spools for the reel, one loaded with a 7 wt line, and one with a 5 wt. On the smaller, thicker streams I generally take the 7 wt, but on streams where I expect to do a little longer distance casting I load it with the 5 wt.

When most casts are 10-15 ft, overlining really isn't overlining from the rod's point of view, and the differences between line weights seem to be diminished. I do subscribe to the heavier rod weights, fast action philosophy. IMO, you're just not going after 7" brookies for the fight. I do it for the places. But I also enjoy challenging myself on the casts. Can I put it under that branch? Can I curve it around that rock? Throwing tight loops and having some real momentum in that line helps with these things.

So my advice is to find a 7'6" 5wt with a fairly fast action and overline it. Don't spend too much, you should expect to abuse it, and not feel the least bit squeamish about doing so. I think TFO makes one. Cabala's TQR (tight quarters rod) may as well. But generally they are hard to find. 7'6" 4 wts are much more common and they'll do just fine. And to start with, don't even worry about the reel. Throw your 6 wt reel on it with the 6 wt line, just change the leader.