
Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : The Elitist Fly Fisherman....Reality or Myth?

Re: The Elitist Fly Fisherman....Reality or Myth?

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I think it is reality - although most fly guys are decent folks. I try a lot of techniques from jig fishing with spinning/bait caster tackle to center pinning. I also have a soft spot for the fly rod lures old-timers used when I was a kid. And do I ever get nasty comments when I'm not 100% traditional. I even like to experiment with my fly fishing. The biggest argument I got into on stream was a few years back when I made a fly rod with single footed guides to check out if the claims for single footed guides were valid. Went to the FFO area a few blocks from my home for a few first casts. The local fly fishermen claimed it wasn't a fly rod unless it had snake guides and it turned real ugly real fast. Ended up with a call to the CO, who fortunately sided with me. Some of the traditional wet fly and Catskill style dry fly tiers go crazy with who is authentic and who is not. I know a few of the old tiers recognized as the masters of the trade and they find some of this purist stuff funny - they were just trying to tie flies that caught fish with the stuff they had.

Yes there is elitism in fly fishing, but most fishermen are fine.