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Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Musky Rod/Reel/Line setup

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Author: : Crotalus

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Previously I accidentally veered the musky fly thread into a rod discussion, in an effort not to hijack that thread again I decided to start a new one. Feel free to add feedback about my setup or post details/questions about yours.

I picked up the 10 wt Echo Ion at the end of January. Hemmed and hawed about lines and reel for a few weeks. Finally settled on a 30ft Rio T-14 shooting head, SA shooting line and a Cabelas Wind River reel.

I was very very hesitant to buy a \$30 reel, but I checked them out in the store, did some reading and am satisfied. Is it my first choice? no, will it work for now, should. I would not take it for saltwater or steelhead fishing but I think the drag will work fine for bass and musky. I bought the 7/8 size and it has plenty of spool capacity for the backing, shooting line and head.

I also bought a 12 wt saltwater sharksin line. I spooled it up first and lawn cast, didnt care much for the action so I switched to the Rio and shooting line. The info recommended 28' of the T-14 for a 10 wt rod. I didnt really feel like cutting off 2' and having to redo the loop connection so I used it as it.

WOW!! I can cast this setup better than any fly rod I have ever used. The casting stroke is pretty rust from several months of not fishing and the shooting head has a different feel to it. Once I have the proper timing on my hauls it should be even better. Even without a haul I can shoot plenty of line.

Next up is intermediate and floating lines. I am not sure whether to just switch heads or buy two more reels and have full setups for each type then I can just swap spools and have a couple spare reels just in case.

I owe Paco a lot of credit for his advice on line selections for the Echo. He was right about the saltwater line.