Subject: : Gear Talk
Topic: : Graphite Rod differences
Re: Graphite Rod differences
Author: : PatrickC
Date: : 2013/4/26 10:28:30
URL:

There is a large difference on multiple levels. The new rods are lighter and more durable and that makes for more casts in a day. However, you have to know what you are getting for the type of fishing you do.

For instance, I had an Orvis Helios 10' 7wt (at a next to nothing price because of being on the Pro Staff...no way I would pay that much for a rod) that I was going to use for steelheading. These rods are made of a single thin layer of graphite that is really strong. Well, it's true, if there are no defects in the graphite...the bending strength is incredible. I broke that rod 4 times. Any little nick to the outside of the graphite created a significant weak spot in the graphic that leads to stress risers when landing a big fish. So, if your rod is going to take any abuse getting into the stream or laying it down on the stream...it's the wrong set-up for big fish.

They finally swaped that rod out for a 3wt instead. I have never had a problem since.

So, anyway, be sure to check the graphite construct and consider your application. If you are tough on rods (and I am), get something with multiple layers. And, choose a company with a warranty. TFO in particular has very well priced rods with a lifetime warranty. Echo is another well priced rod company to consider.