

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Graphite Rod differences

Re: Graphite Rod differences

Author: : troutbert

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I've seen two people fishing big name, expensive modern graphite rods cast and hook some obstruction, then jerk on the rod to try to loosen the fly, and snap the rod a little bit below the tip.

I don't think that is likely to happen with the more "old school" fly rods. Many of the newer expensive rods are higher modulus, which gives you more line speed. But it makes them more brittle. That's the tradeoff.

And they are thinner walled than rods in the past, making them lighter, which makes them enjoyable to cast. But thinner walled rods are more likely to fail. It's a weight vs durability tradeoff.

I talked to a someone who guides in Alaska and he said the rod breakage rate is very high up there with people using the high modulus thin walled type of fly rod. Not surprising at all. For that type of fishing, you'd be better off with a rod that is maybe not quite as much of a "rocket" but that can take some abuse.