

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Tips for hooking fish

Re: Tips for hooking fish

Author: : barbless

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URL:

Quote:

trout hook themselves 90% of the time

unless you react like you just stepped on a high-voltage wire, like I used to do.

I really am better this season, it's no fluke. I've had only four missed takes this year so far. Everything else was on the line for at least a couple of seconds.

Two of my missed takes were on streamer fished upstream. Streamer fishing is a bit different- you have to sock it home a bit harder. And it seems to me that there are often a lot of short strikes, no matter what. It's often tough to keep slack out of the line when streamer fishing, whether upstream or down.

In both of my missed streamer takes, the fish exploded on the fly so hard that I did nothing at all in response. But I may have pulled the fly out of reach anyway. I was drift-stripping it on an upstream line, probably doing it too fast. I'm thinking that the fish in the East seem to prefer a slower retrieve than out West, with pauses in between strips.

Stagger, one other thing that's helped me a lot is to sneak closer to the fish and use a short line. Like much shorter, 15-25 feet between the rod tip and the fly.