

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : The "Troutiest" of rods?

Re: The "Troutiest" of rods?

Author: : Swattie87

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URL:

tb - I overline my small stream rods too...mostly 5wt lines on 4wt rods. The rods are rated to load with a certain amount of line of a certain weight (whatever is printed on the rod) out. For small stream casting, you're generally casting with less line out than whatever that amount was it was rated at...I think it's usually something like 30 feet, but the exact number isn't really important for discussion here.

Bottom line: X feet of 5wt line weighs more than X feet of 4 wt line. Therefore at shorter distances (up to the distance the rod was rated at), the heavier weight line will load the rod more efficiently. At extremely short distances, 2 or even 3 line weights may be what's needed to load the rod most efficiently.

Try overlining by one line weight some time on one of your Brookie rods and make casts in the 10-20 feet range. This is a common length of cast when I Brookie fish. Regardless of action, my guess is you'll find the rod loads more efficiently with the heavier line weight at those distances. The one downside to overlining is that when you come across that one long, wide open pool, the heavier line hurts you when you need to bomb a really long cast (longer than what the rod was rated at) out there. Still worth it IMO as this is a very rare occurrence when small stream/Brookie fishing.