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Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : simulated hatch

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Here's a new scenario for me... Recently I've been fishing dries, which I don't fish very often. It happens when I approach a nice hole, and there are no rising trout and little or no insect activity. I start drifting a fly past fish. For a while they ignore it. Eventually they catch on and the rises start. The activity builds and a top water frenzy ensues. I catch a few fish until the activity eventually dies down again. I've done this with stocked trout and wild Brookies.

I'm thinking that my fly drifting past them 15-20 times or so gives them the illusion that something is going on, like multiple flies are coming down the line, even though its just me casting the same fly. I've started calling this a "simulated hatch". Is this possible and is there another term for this technique? I'm sure this is pretty common with dry fly fishing but it definitely seems like a different technique than "matching the hatch". In a sense I feel like I'm simulating a hatch when no hatch is happening.