

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Help with casting bigger streamers

Re: Help with casting bigger streamers

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URL:

Good advice above so far. First and easiest thing you can do is shorten your leader and use a heavier tippet section. Yeah, for a 9' 5x tapered leader just cut back the last 24 inches or so (until the line gets a little thicker) and fish from there...fixes both of those issues. For Bass/WW fishing I use regular old 10lb mono off my spinning gear spools for my tippet, and a total leader length of 6-7'.

Second thing is just to understand a little bit about the fundamentals of rod weights and their capabilities. A 5wt is an excellent all around, middle of the road freshwater stream rod and a great choice for a beginner. That said, it does have its relative sweet spots and limitations...as Kray mentioned, everything is a trade off. The basics to understand here is that there is an upper limit to the amount of weight/size of flies a 5wt rod can effectively throw. A size 8, weighted streamer (with shot on top of it) is probably approaching the upper limit of what a 5wt will throw effectively. It sounds like you have your cast down pretty well if you're casting smaller dries and wets effectively...it's really not a whole lot different with a streamer. You may very well just be approaching the upper limits of what the rod was made to do...meaning there may not be much wrong with your casting, you're just asking the rod to do something it wasn't meant to do. I fished WW for a while with an 8'6 5wt and ran into issues with my casts starting to fall apart at about the same size of flies you're talking about. I fished the 5wt like that for a while and then eventually broke down and bought a 9'0 6wt for warmwater and larger Trout applications.