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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : September's wild trout

Re: September's wild trout

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/9/16 13:06:17

URL:

There are times, especially early season, where I frequently use a dry-dropper combo to good effect. However, by the time summer rolls around, I'm getting 90% of my hits on the dry. That accounts for both browns and brookies, but generally on small streams. When that happens, I feel that the use of the dropper is costing me more than 10%. i.e. the dropper lowers the hooking rate. And to fish it effectively, it forces me to get closer, thus spooking some fish I'd otherwise catch. Hence, off with the dropper.

On larger streams, being forced to nymph is more common, and I don't think the dry-dropper is as effective as I'm varying depth more and have to use more weight, sinking the dry. Plus, they ain't hitting the dry, or else I'd be using it solely, so what's the point? I high stick or indicator nymph in these situations.

Yesterday, actually, I was on a small stream I know has lots of fish, and I was doing poorly in the morning. Figuring we had entered the cold season scenario, I went to the dry-dropper. That didn't work either. I think they were just "off". Shortly after lunch, things picked up, but they were nailing the dry, not the dropper. So I proceeded to ditch the dropper and ended up catching a few for the next hour or two before I had to quit.

Personally, I think the "cold season" scenario where dry-droppers are ideal is mostly small streams with highish water and hungry, but not yet super aggressive fish. Low water in fall, well, they'll hit the dry, or not hit anything.