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Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Is making your own leaders worth the trouble?

Re: Is making your own leaders worth the trouble?

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/10/8 9:27:17

URL:

Quote:

I hooked into some good size fish on the Upper D last week. I was lazy/busy rowing and didn't swap out the old knotted leader and the knots definitely got stuck in the guides when trying to bring the fish in the boat. Luckily they didn't decide to go on any last minutes runs or they would've definitely broke off.

I've never had a problem wading, but yeah, boats could be a different story. When wading, you can grab the line on a small fish, or back up and beach a big one. Big fish in a boat I could understand this. I've NEVER fly fished from a boat in my life.

Quote:

what soft mono or co-polymer would you recommend ?

I'm a fan of Rio Powerflex. It is as supple a tippet material as is commonly available (meaning, just about EVERY fly shop carries it). There are a few special materials out there that might be a touch better, but hard to find. Rio Suppleflex, Trout Hunter, and Dai Riki Dynamic come to mind, I liked them when I tried them, but you aren't gonna find them in the majority of fly shops.

But Climax, Umpqua, Frog Hair, Dai Riki GTS, etc. are all very commonly available but too stiff for my tastes. Not to put them down, it just depends what you value. For instance, they might be better on breaking strength, or abrasion resistance. I just value suppleness over all other factors on a copolymer tippet material.

In fluoro, I've settled on Seaguar Grand Max FX as my hands-down favorite (note the FX, as without it it's a totally different product, which is still good stuff, but much stiffer). It's more supple than even some of the stiffer copolymers, proving that there's overlap in these categories.