

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Getting it to the bottom

Re: Getting it to the bottom

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URL:

Couple tips:

1. As was said, for fly fishing, spread out those shot. Makes casting easier, and less tangles.
2. I typically like a tandem rig when I can get away with it. That said, it definitely adds complexity to casting and can lead to tangles. Try only to your skill level. If I have to have a ton of weight and/or cast further than ideal, I still go with 1 nymph.
3. Personally with tandems I much prefer droppers, as opposed to tying to a hook bend. Most of my nymphing rigs I leave multiple droppers. At any blood knot near the business end of the leader, leave a 1-2" tag end on the THICKER line. If you choose no dropper fly, still put your shot on that tag end. MANY snags are shot, not fly, in the rocks. And if the shot is on that dropper it will usually pull out by pulling the shot off the end of that tag end. Then you need only to add more shot, not retie knots. If you're shot are not removable, this also makes changing weight MUCH easier, as you can just slide em off that end instead of cutting, sliding, and retying. One downfall of every nymph is laziness, and not changing weights when we should. This make it that much easier.
4. This leads to tandem rigs, which is good. You get to saying that, if you're putting shot on that tag, why not just make it a really heavy fly so that it can catch fish too? I always have a few in my box, that are pretty much balls of soft wire wrapped on a hook with a little dubbing overtop. Think Walt's worm where 3/4 of the "cigar" shape is actually metal. I've even done 4 or 5 tungsten beads strung along the shank to give the overlying dubbing a segmented look. They catch fish, and are very heavy indeed! The downfall of this approach is that if you do snag one of those, it doesn't pull off the end, rather it breaks the line above the point rig, forcing a whole new rig. Tippet rings might help me here, I intend to try that this year.