

# Fishing Techniques & Tactics (1)

## Introduction to **Fishing Streamers**

**John Lively**

# In Session 4 you learned that

1. A streamer imitates baitfish, crawfish, and other prey
2. We recommend the Olive Woolly Bugger to start with

Olive Woolly Bugger



Clouser  
Minnow



So how do you fish streamers?

# Basic streamer fishing setup

- Any 5-6-7-8 weight fly rod with floating line
- **Shorter leader** and **heavier tippet** – e.g. 6 feet 3X
- Start simple: **Olive Woolly Bugger**, Clouser Minnow
- Choose streamer size/weight based on what your outfit can comfortably cast
  - 5 weight = smaller streamers
  - 8 weight = larger, weighted streamers

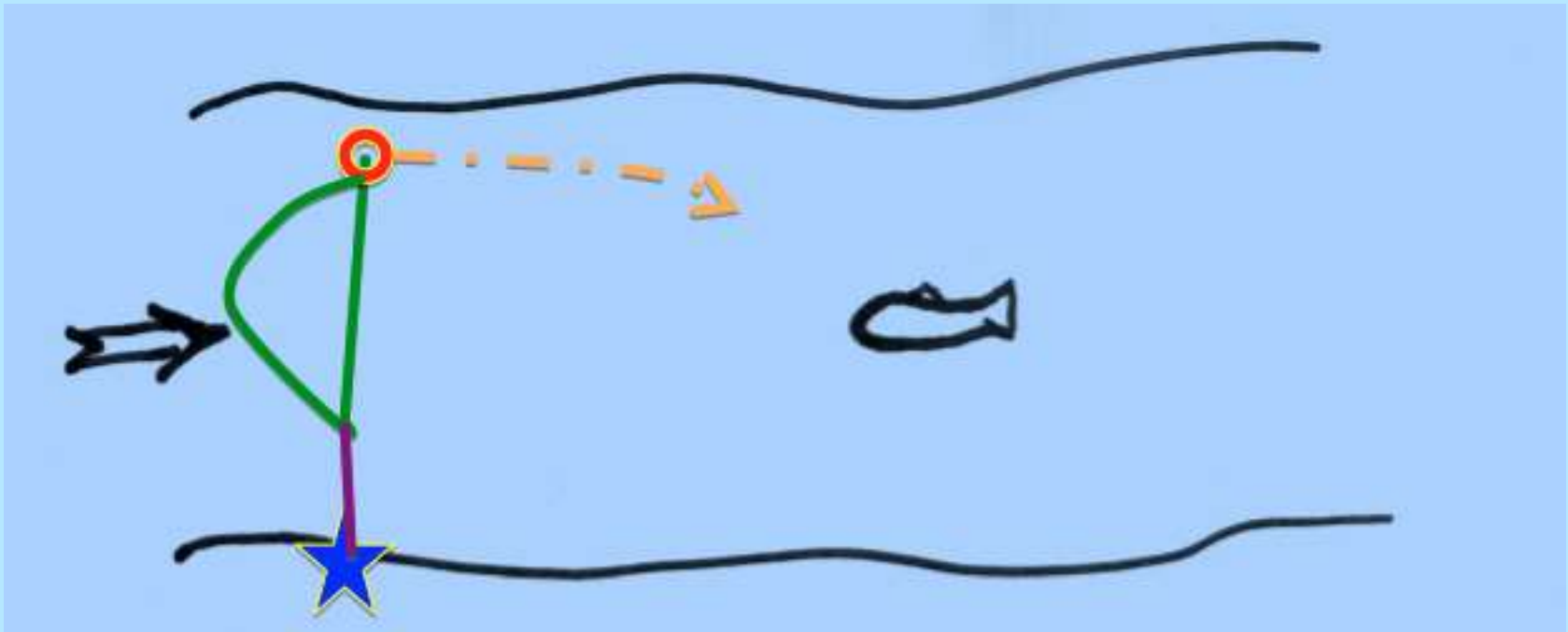
# Streamer fishing method 1 – Stripping

- Cast, let sink, and retrieve in bursts
- Vary speed, length, interval of strips
- Good for lakes and still waters in rivers
- Similar to fishing spinners and plugs..



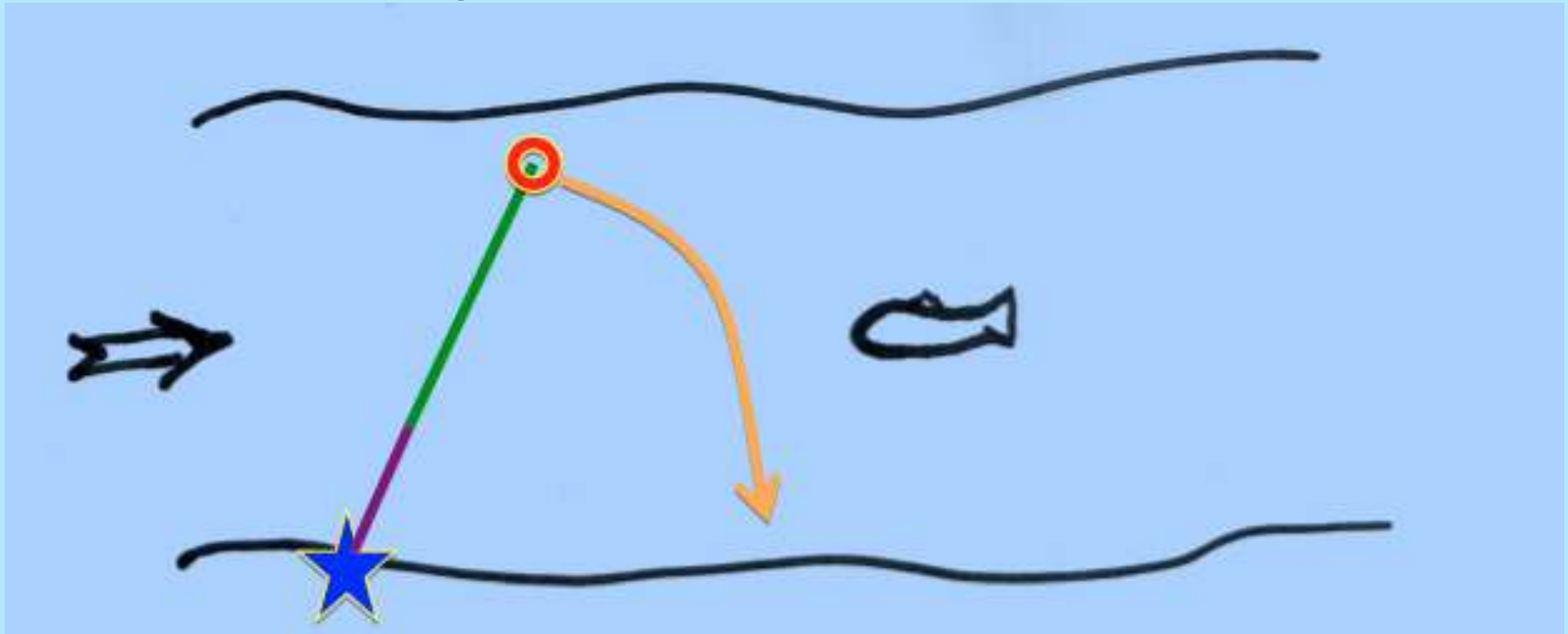
# Streamer fishing method 2 – Dead Drifting

- Cast upstream and let the fly settle and drift downstream – similar to nymphing
- Streamer imitates a stunned or injured fish or crayfish
- Very effective in pools below waterfalls, where injured or stunned bait fish can be found



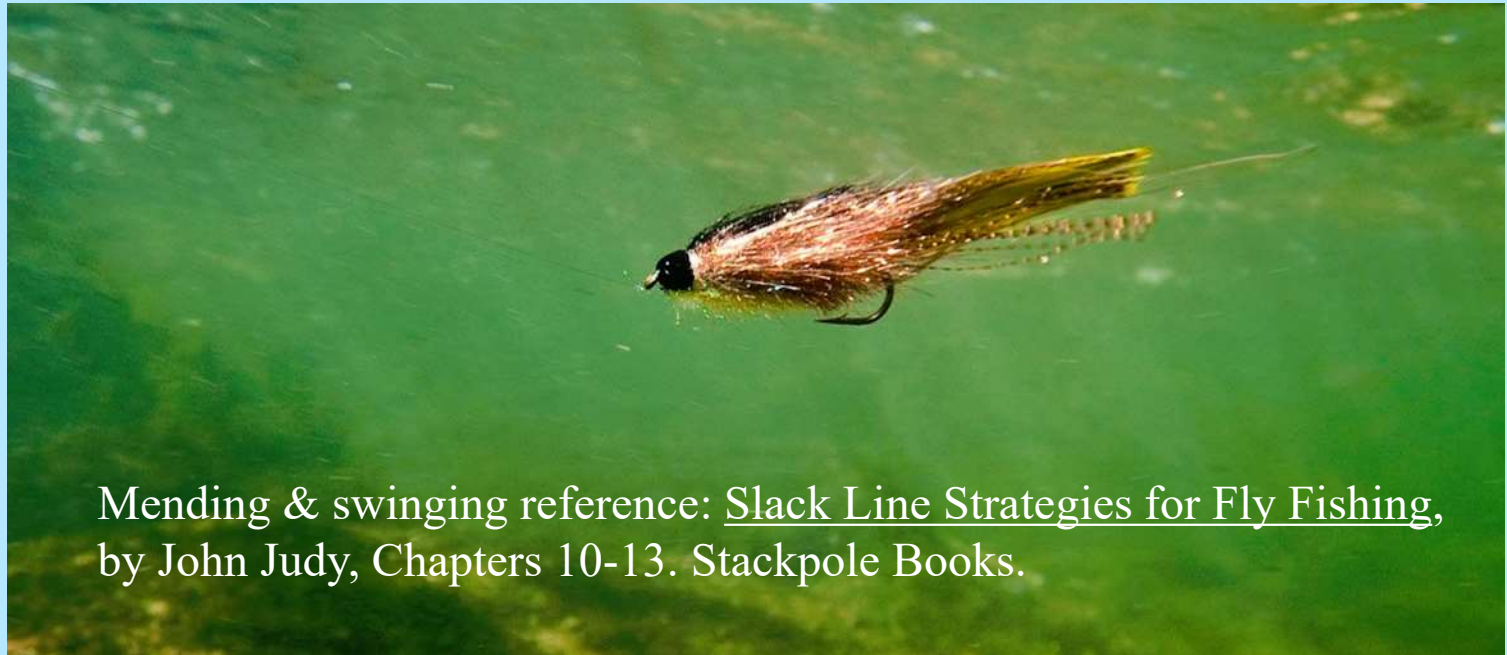
# Streamer fishing method 3 – Swinging

- Cast across and let the fly ‘swing’ down and across the stream on a **semi-tight line**
- **Mend upstream** to prevent the line leading the fly
- Cast further upstream to sink the fly deeper
- Fish “the dangle”



# Streamer method 3B – Swimming

- Like swinging but with more active line control
- Targeting specific depths, structures, and fly movements
- Put the fly where the fish can see it, and trigger a response.



# Where and when to use streamers ?



Stocked browns  
in the spring

River smallmouth  
in the summer





# Where and when to use streamers ?

Finger Lakes  
tributaries  
in the Fall



# What you should remember

- Streamers catch bigger fish, on average, than nymphs and dry flies (perhaps not as many)
- No special equipment, just shorter, heavier leader
- A few Woolly Buggers are all you need to get started
- You can fish streamers almost everywhere in southern NY

Chemung River  
Cayuta Creek  
Fall Creek  
Salmon Creek  
Owego Creek  
Cohocton River  
Susquehanna R  
Tioga River  
Etc.



Keuka Lake  
Cayuga Lake  
Seneca Lake  
Tioga-Hammond  
Conesus Lake  
Hemlock Lake  
Waneta-Lamoka L  
Little Lake  
Etc.

End Streamer talk