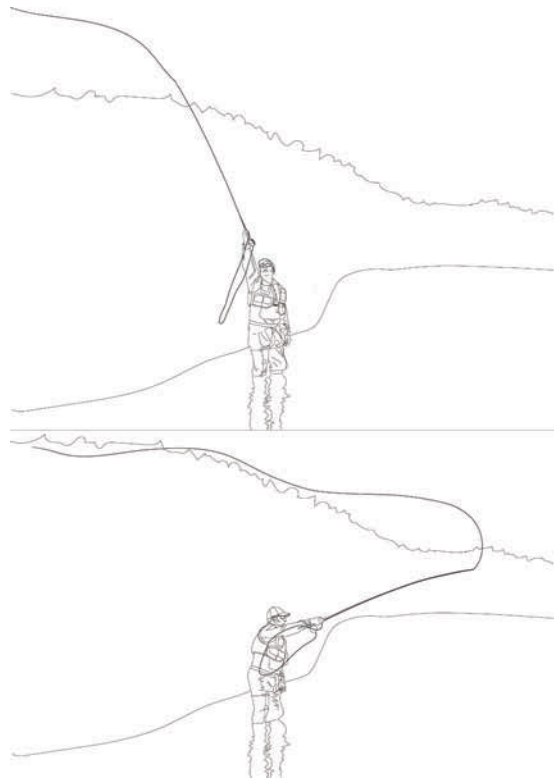


doesn't strike, strip until the fish strikes or the Captain puts the boat in gear and the teaser is replaced. If you really want to satisfy a compulsion for this kind of fishing, contact Captain Jake Jordan at JakeJordan.com. He runs billfish schools in the Caribbean and elsewhere. Refer to the section on casting heavy outfits for more tips.

CASTS FOR LIMITED ROOM

Obstacles behind you like rock formations, a bank, or brush, sometimes prevent making a regular backcast. The roll cast is the first choice to use to deal with this, but if fast water is in front of you or you're using dry flies, a Steeple Cast is the better choice. You will be able to false cast and if you can live with a short cast, it's preferable. Begin with your rod tip close to the water and the palm of the casting hand and reel facing up. Start an oval sidearm backcast rearward, stop the rod when the rod tip is straight up over your casting shoulder and your hand is just over your head. Your forearm will be vertical with your palm facing forward. Allow the loop to unroll overhead. Then make the forward stroke and stop the rod at a position so the cast has enough speed to unroll without tailing.



The Steeple Cast is used when you have limited backcast room but because it requires breaking the 180-degree rule, it is a tailing loop waiting to happen.

FIELD TIP

If you elevate the spiral as you do it, you can make a vertical Spiral Pick-up cast I learned from the late English angler, John Goddard. It forms a high, compact backcast, for when you have no room behind you.

The Pendulum Cast has an upside down loop and works for casting under brush in small streams or saltwater mangrove. The fly rides underneath, so it has a tendency not to snag if the loop doesn't quite fit under the overhang. To make this cast, use a sidearm cast with a saucer shaped forward stroke. The shallower the saucer, the tighter the resulting loop. According to Paul Arden, this cast can also be used to prevent line collisions when performing slack line roll casts.