

Guides Top Lures



If you need new lures, read this story. We called up America's top fishing guides to ask them which ones they turn to when their tips are on the line. These are their favorites, for all major species, plus advice on how to fish them. [\[View Photos\]](#)

[PREV](#)
[1](#)
[2](#)
[3](#)
[4](#)
[NEXT](#)

TOP PICKS

- ▶ 5 Reasons to Love Eliza Dushku 63
- ▶ Petzal: The Mexican Connection 70
- ▶ Best Western-Movie Theme Songs 51
- ▶ The Big Pull: Record Steelhead? 46
- ▶ A Toast to a Good Bird Dog 44
- ▶ Topic: Obama and "Assault Weapons" 40
- ▶ Backyard Butchering Feud 34

NEW SITE FEATURES



Video: Learn to Speak Coyote
These expert coyote callers want to teach you how to sing like a songdog.



Easy Guide to Bait Fishing
How to pick and rig the best baits for most fishing situations (illustrated).



The Six Best Lever-Actions
David E. Petzal picks his favorite models of this underappreciated classic.

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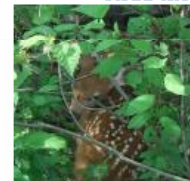
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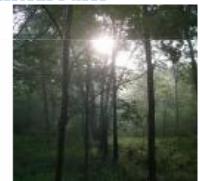
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A Fly on the Wall



Sunrise in Spring



Hummingbird Moth



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FLYTALK

March 3, 2009

This Is Fly: Photo Submissions



I know, I know... the new cover of *This Is Fly* doesn't have much to do with fishing. They never do. That's the charm of this superbly designed online zine of fly fishing. If you've never taken a look you should.

This issue is all about Russia. There's video, stories, even a solid mixed tape of Russian tunes (on pg. 15) for your listening pleasure while your checking out the rest of the "book".

Speaking of book, it seems that TIF is putting out it's first book of photographs. They're asking for submissions from anyone who want to participate.

This is Fly is inviting everyone to be a part of our

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QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT

Fishing > Bass > What to Use

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The Killers: 112 Can't-Miss Lures of Today's Top Guides

Here are 112 battle-tested lures that North America's top guides tie on when they absolutely have to catch fish. Make room in your tackle box

Article by Joe Cermele. Uploaded on February 19, 2009



One of pike guide Steve Scepiani's Suick Thriller jerkbaits shows the battle scars accrued after fooling over 1,000 trophy northerns and muskies. The lure had nearly a 20-year run before Scepiani retired it. The Suick Thriller remains his go-to jerkbait.

Related Links

- ▶ [Favorite Lures of the Smallmouth Guides](#)
- ▶ [Favorite Lures of the Crappie Guides](#)
- ▶ [Favorite Lures of the Walleye Guides](#)
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Largemouth Bass Walleye Crappie



Striped Bass Northern Pike Smallmouth Bass

Ask fishing guides to name their favorite lures and most sigh, then grumble, then inevitably utter some variation on the words, "That's tough, because it all depends on the conditions." But deep down, all guides—regardless of sponsorships, endorsements, or free lures showered on them by manufacturers—know the patterns that will get them hooked up on their home waters anytime. They all have standbys that get it done come rain, wind, or dirty water. So we found and grilled 28 top guides throughout the United States and Canada and got them to reveal their absolute favorite lures in four categories for seven species—and even tell us how they use them. It's a lot of info, and it's all here. Read it, then check your gear—and we'll see you at the tackle shop. Click on a species below.

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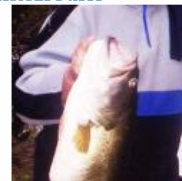
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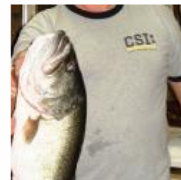
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Bass



It was at border of the water and boat

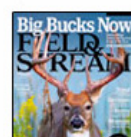


My big monster



My 14 pounds

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Favorite Lures of the Smallmouth Guides

From Dale Hollow Lake - which gave up the world-record smallie - to Maryland's Potomac River, we grilled four top bronzeback guides to find out which lures are their go-to patterns all season long. *Article by Joe Cermele. Uploaded on February 18, 2009*

Related Links

- ▶ Favorite Lures of the Crappie Guides
- ▶ Favorite Lures of the Largemouth Guides



John Davis

Location: Dale Hollow Lake, Tennessee

Credentials: Davis began running smallmouth trips only six years ago because he "didn't want to share secrets." But now that he's offering his knowledge to clients, they shouldn't be surprised to hook bass topping seven pounds.

Number of years guiding: 6

Contact: (859) 619-8002; smallmouthspecialty.com



Stanley Wedge Tandem

Favorite Spinnerbait: Stanley Wedge Tandem

Color: Chartreuse/White

Weight: ½ oz.

Details: "The Wedge appeals to me because it doesn't look bulky in the water. The head is very streamlined, which gives it a nice presentation. I like to run a spinner bait shallow enough that I can see the blades flashing, but not high enough that there is a wake on the surface. I also like to position the boat so I'm throwing parallel to the bank. When the bass are holding shallow, it's a deadly combination."

Favorite Crankbait: Luhr Jensen Hot Lips

Color: Hot Texas Red Crystal

Size: 2 ¾ in.

Weight: ¼ oz.

Details: "Hot Lips run true right out of the box. I've never had to tune them to get a fish-catching action. That red-and-black color is also a terrific crayfish imitator. With any crankbait, you need to be hitting things underwater, like logs, rocks, or just the bottom, for success with bigger fish. A lure bouncing off debris better imitates a fleeing crayfish. The fish key in on the sound. I've had five clean runs and caught nothing, then on the sixth, I hit a rock and a fish grabs it."

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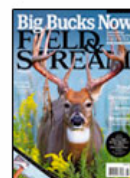
green mountain



2 year olds first



First Cast!!



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Q: Here is the situation: You are fishing and you catch a fish that is not legal to keep, but it swallowed the hook and is already dead. What are your thoughts on the legality of this situation. Is it right to throw the dead fish back (morally) or should there be a compromise (legally) to keep it?

from [kjflorian](#) on 03.02.09
8 answers | [Answer Question](#)



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Q: i am looking for a lake or river around chicago IL to go musky or pike

