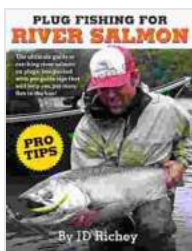


# Plug Fishing for River Salmon: An In-Depth Guide

Plug fishing is a popular technique for catching salmon in rivers. Plugs are artificial lures that are designed to mimic the appearance and movement of small fish. Salmon are predators and will readily attack plugs that they mistake for food.



## Plug Fishing for River Salmon by JD Richey

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Plug fishing for river salmon can be a challenging but rewarding experience. The following guide will provide you with all the information you need to get started, including:

- Choosing the right gear
- Finding the best spots to fish
- Casting and retrieving plugs
- Hooking and landing salmon

## **Choosing the Right Gear**

The first step to plug fishing for salmon is to choose the right gear. You will need a rod, reel, line, and plugs.

### **Rod**

The best rod for plug fishing for salmon is a medium-heavy action rod that is 7-8 feet long. The rod should have a strong backbone to handle the powerful runs of salmon.

### **Reel**

The reel should be a spinning reel that is spooled with 10-12 pound test line. The reel should have a smooth drag system to allow the salmon to run without breaking the line.

### **Line**

The line should be a monofilament or fluorocarbon line. Monofilament line is less expensive and more abrasion-resistant, but it is less sensitive than fluorocarbon line. Fluorocarbon line is more sensitive and less visible to salmon, but it is more expensive.

### **Plugs**

There are a variety of plugs that can be used to catch salmon. The most popular types of plugs are floating, sinking, and diving plugs. Floating plugs are designed to stay on the surface of the water, while sinking plugs are designed to sink to a specific depth. Diving plugs are designed to dive to a specific depth and then rise to the surface.

The size and color of the plug will depend on the size and species of salmon you are targeting. Smaller plugs are better for smaller salmon, while larger plugs are better for larger salmon. Brightly colored plugs are more visible to salmon in clear water, while natural-colored plugs are more effective in murky water.

## **Finding the Best Spots to Fish**

The best places to fish for salmon are in areas where there is a lot of current. Salmon are attracted to current because it brings them food. Look for areas where the current is flowing over rocks, logs, or other obstacles. These areas create turbulence that attracts salmon.

You can also look for salmon in pools. Pools are areas where the current is slower and deeper. Salmon often rest in pools after feeding in the faster water.

## **Casting and Retrieving Plugs**

The first step to casting a plug is to hold the rod in your dominant hand and the reel in your non-dominant hand. The line should be fed through the guides on the rod and tied to the plug.

To cast the plug, start by swinging the rod back over your head. As you swing the rod forward, release the line from the reel. The plug will fly through the air and land in the water.

Once the plug is in the water, you can begin retrieving it. The speed of your retrieve will depend on the type of plug you are using. Floating plugs should be retrieved slowly, while sinking plugs should be retrieved more quickly. Diving plugs should be retrieved at a medium speed.

As you retrieve the plug, keep your rod tip pointed at the plug. This will help to keep the plug in the strike zone.

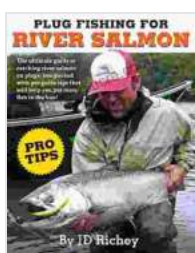
## Hooking and Landing Salmon

When a salmon strikes your plug, you will feel a sharp tug on the line. Set the hook by raising the rod tip quickly and firmly. Once the hook is set, the salmon will begin to fight.

Salmon are powerful fish, so it is important to keep the pressure on them. Keep the rod tip pointed at the salmon and reel in the line as quickly as possible. If the salmon starts to run, give it some line. But do not let the salmon get too far away, or it will break the line.

When the salmon is tired, it will begin to swim in circles. This is your chance to reel it in. Once the salmon is close to the shore, you can use a net to land it.

Plug fishing for river salmon is a challenging but rewarding experience. By following the tips in this guide, you can increase your chances of success.



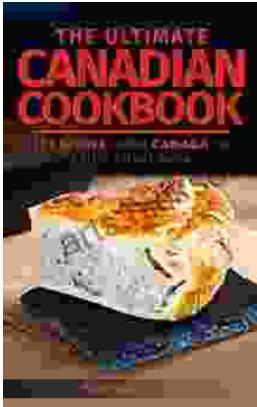
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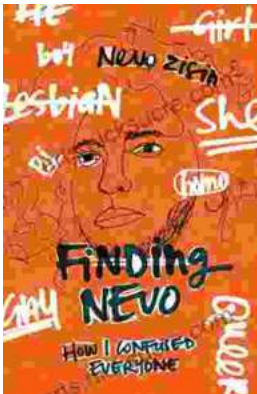
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