



## BC STEELHEAD SPEY PACKING LIST

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### Fishing Gear Checklist for BC Steelhead:

Your daily fishing gear will likely be in (2) bags – a roll top boat or duffel bag, and a portable pack that stays with you. The large bag contains extra clothes (for warmth or if you take a dunk), gloves, stocking cap, extra flies, etc. This will be left on the boat or in the car while fishing. Your fishing pack will be a hip-pack, backpack, or sling style pack that stays with you and contains your tactical items (flies, hemostats, tippet, tips, etc...).

- 6-8 weight Spey or switch rod/ reel with Skagit head system (best for fishing sink tips)
- 6-8 weight Spey or Switch rod/ reel with Scandi head system (best for fishing dries, damp flies)
- Travel rod tube that accommodates spey
- Waders
- Wading boots with best traction system you prefer (Felt is minimum, felt with studs is desirable)
- Wading Staff – critical piece
- Insulated base layers (vest, jacket, hoody) – 3 warm layers minimum
- Dry coat (Quality is important on this piece – Goretex desirable)
- Duffel or large pack that carries extra layers – waterproof desirable
- Backpack, sling, or hip pack – waterproof desirable
- (2) pairs polarized sunglasses (Copper lens preferred w/ tethers – Amber color for cloudy days)
- (3) Tapered Steelhead Leaders – 9' 15+ pound
- 12, 15, and 20 pound Maxima ultrageen (preferred by steelheaders everywhere!)
- Variety of 5' to 15' sink tips – labeled and in wallet. The Medium MOW kit is a great start if from scratch
- Fishing gloves or fold over mitts
- Stocking cap
- Good sunscreen/SPF Lipbalm – can get sunny
- Bug spray – depends on time of year

## General Packing List for BC Steelhead Spey Trips:

Your primary gear will be in a “checked” bag. The lodges will do laundry for a reasonable fee throughout the week so don’t overpack.

- (2) pairs fleece fishing pants
- (2) pairs under wader long underwear – tops and bottom
- Headlamp
- Insect Repellent
- YETI Type Beverage Cup
- YETI Type Water Bottle
- Lucky fishing hat
- Camera, batteries, charge cords (outlets are standard 110V)
- Passport (Check the EXP Date & Make a back-up copy)
- Ear plugs (in case your bunkmate snores)
- Toiletries/Personal Items
- Pen in your carry-on (for Immigration paperwork)
- Cash
- Powdered Gatorade or Electrolyte Drink
- Imodium AD (just in case!)
- Lens Wipes (the kind in a little package)
- Lens Chamois Cloth
- Laundry Bag for Dirty Clothes
- Garbage Bag for wet boots, waders

## Fly List for BC Spey Trips

GENERAL POINTERS: Keep the following in mind when choosing your spey fly assortment: Black, Purple, and Pink are great base colors for steelhead flies – add in Blue, Orange, Chartreuse, and Red as complimentary colors, and you have the basis for the most popular and productive flies of all time. We like to fish lightly weighted or unweighted flies behind tips, as it allows you to present the fly horizontally to the fish (bigger profile). That being said, if you are fishing a run from a tight boulder strewn ledge where the fish can hold directly below you, a floating line with a weighted fly is more effective than the tip. In low clear water we use smaller flies. We ALWAYS use loop knots to attach Steelhead flies. When using sink tips, you will break flies off, so we recommend bringing at least (4) each of your favorite patterns swinging patterns.

My steelhead box for a week in BC will have 24 unweighted articulated swinging flies (Hoh Bo heavy), 12 weighted swing flies, and 12 damp/ dry flies – with a variety of sizes 2,4,6.

- (24) Hoh Bo Spey style (light or unweighted) in variety of purple, pink, blk/ blue, maroon, etc...
- (12) Intruder style flies (weighted lead eyes or cone heads) – same colors
- (6) Traditional style spey flies: Green butt skunk, Cop cars, Purple peril
- (6) Dry flies/ Skaters: bombers, wakers, and the newer foam patterns all work. Use a riffle hitch knot.