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3. FLY-LINES AND CASTING

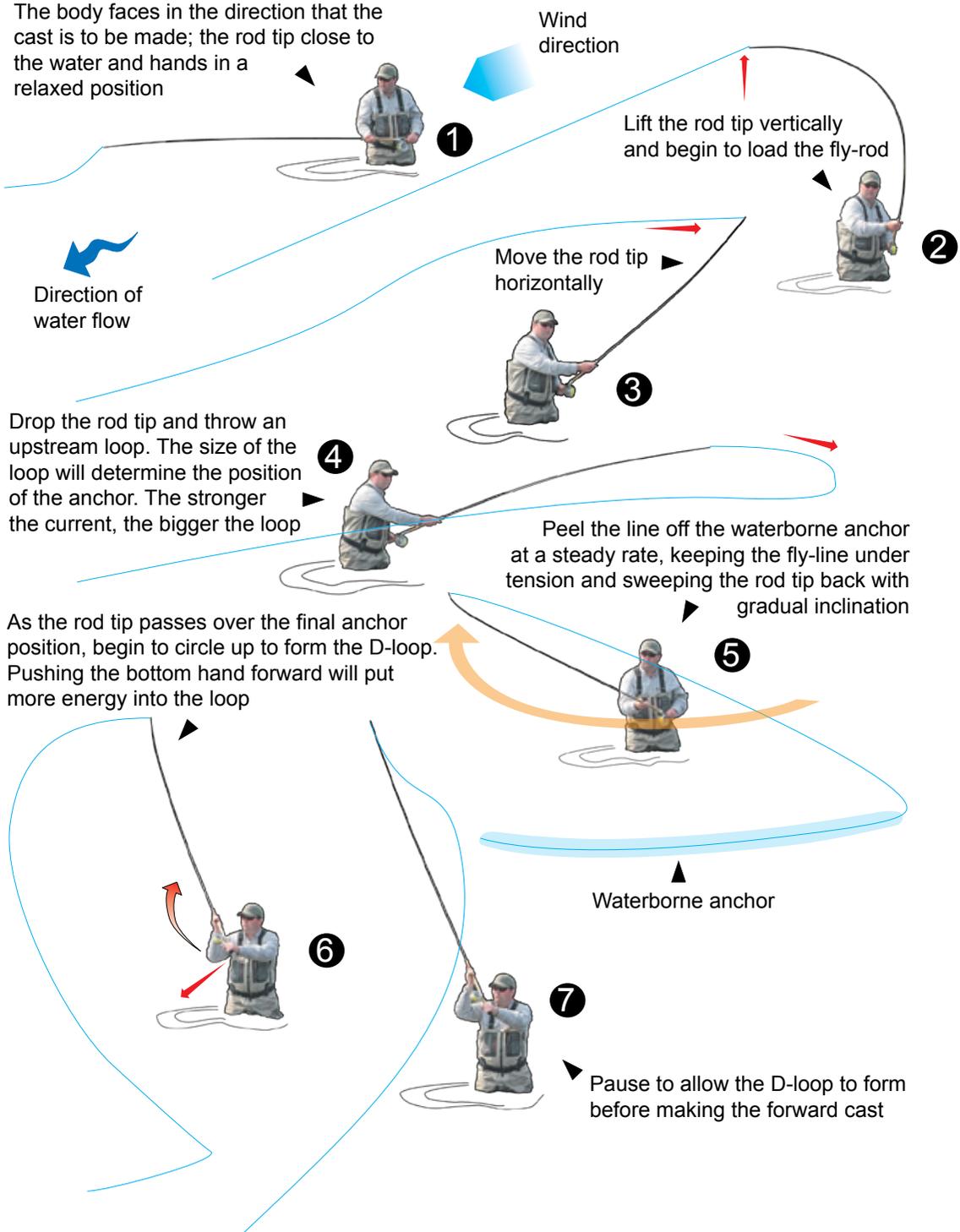
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Double Spey cast (double-handed)

The body faces in the direction that the cast is to be made; the rod tip close to the water and hands in a relaxed position



Double Spey cast (single-handed)

Background notes to the method

The upstream loop

The size of the loop will determine the downstream anchor position and may be adjusted to compensate for a fast flowing current or a longer fly-line. It is important that the rod tip ends low, close to the water. Most of the line will now be on the water and this will form a waterborne anchor.

The sweep

The speed at which the sweep is made ensures that the fly-line is always under tension as it is peeled off the water's surface. The wider the sweep, the better the resulting D-loop at the end of it. Continue to sweep until the rod tip passes over the forward cast anchor position and at this moment circle up, by lifting the elbow, to throw a big D-loop, whilst using wrist action to draw the fly-line back to the correct anchor position. Ultimately, the hand will come

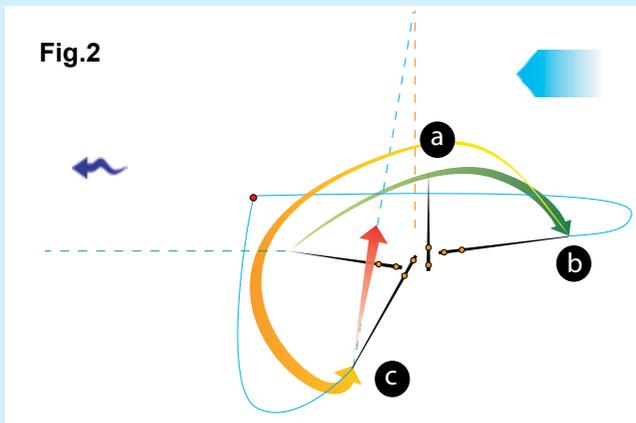
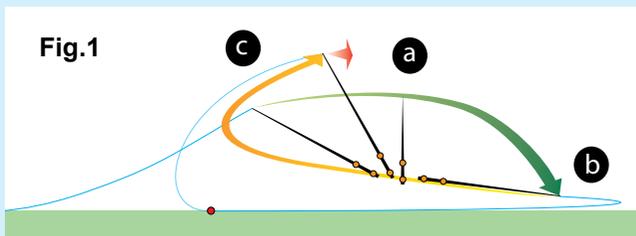
up to the key position in readiness for the forward cast.

In the example (page 43) the forward cast [Fig.7] is made over the body and this may be necessary when casting from the left-bank side of the river. However the basic movements are the same for conventional casting as well. Rod-tip speed, for longer casting, can be increased by adding a haul to the forward cast.

Tips for the cast

- Contrary to intuition, this cast should not be hurried, especially during the formation of the waterborne anchor.
- It is best to look at the tip of the fly-line, rather than the upstream loop, to ensure that the anchor is placed in the correct position.

Double Spey visualisation diagram



These two diagrams show a view of the cast from the side (Fig.1) and from above (Fig.2).

a) Lift the rod up and over.

b) Place the rod tip upstream, laying the fly-line on the water with the line tip in the anchor position.

c) Then sweep out and round downstream, up a shallow incline, circling up as the rod tip passes over the anchor position.

d) Make the forward cast.

Double Spey cast (single-handed)

