

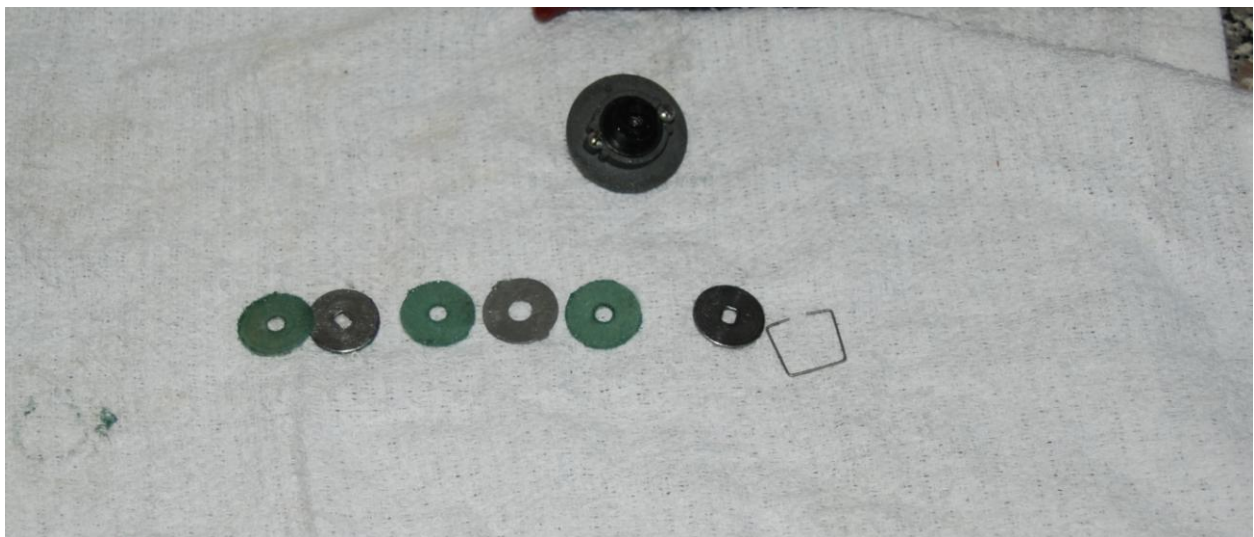
I am going to be harsh on Shimano on this one, nothing against them, my other ones work fine, but this one has been a problem. Here is my Symetre FJ 3000. When I first got the reel three years ago it was super smooth, and to me a good looking reel. But it has been a complete headache. I may get three trips before it binds up on me. Now I am using it in saltwater, but it gets rinsed. Here is the reel. I am not tearing down the bail since that is working fine.



Here is the spool, it has a very reliable drag clicker.



The drag, oiled felt.



The rotor, first pull off the shims and the drag clicker plate, then remove the tiny retaining screw, and unbolt the rotor. When you put the back together be careful, the retaining screw only goes into plastic and the threads can be stripped.

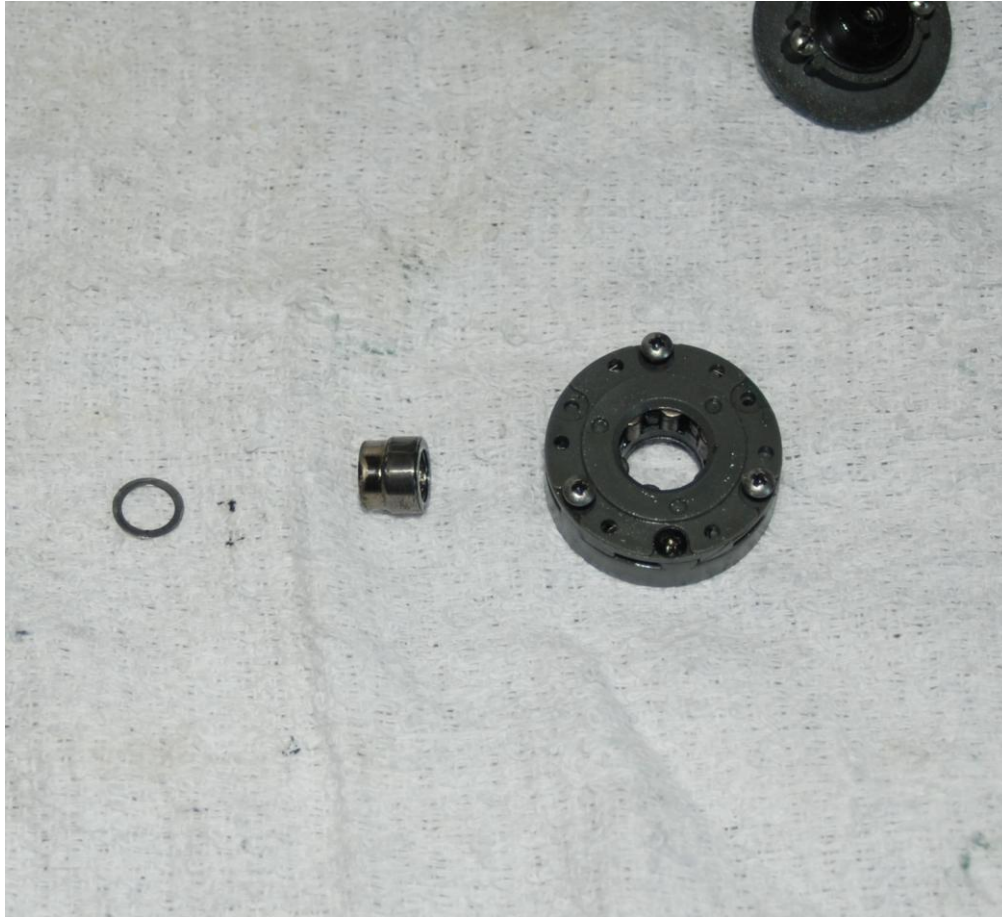


With the rotor off the anti reverse is visible. When you remove this, only unscrew the silver screws, the black crew will disassemble the AR itself. I did not need to mess with the AR, so I left it be. Underneath the AR mechanism is the white plastic bail trip and the black rubber rotor brake. I thought one of these may have been binding, but that was not the case.



AR off.





Once the AR is off take off the white bail trip, then pull off the black rubber ring.



Now you can open the hear box, remove the handle.



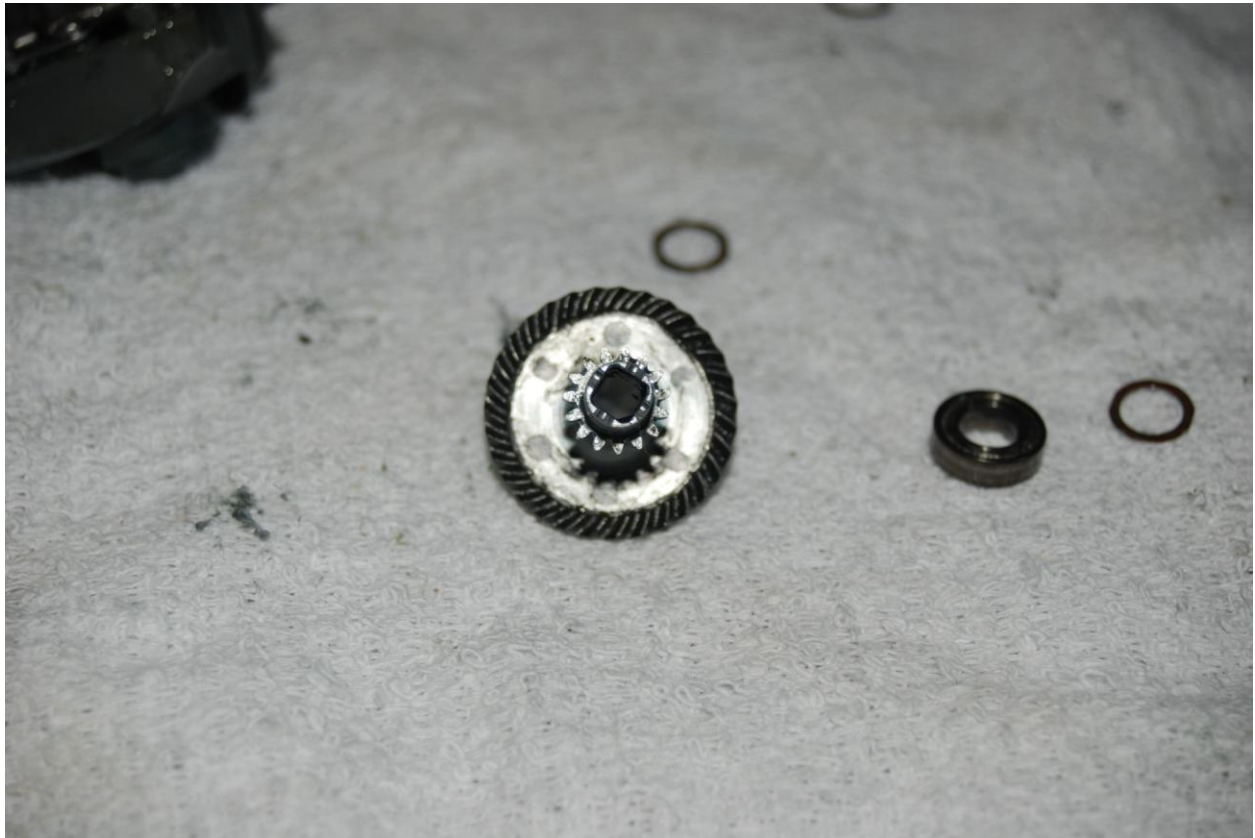


Now unscrew the rest of the body and separate the gear box. This is the foot of the reel. This is the only metal body part of this reel, it does not hold the gears, and most screws do not tap into it. It keeps flex down, but I wish the body box was metal too. Look carefully at the bearing. If you can see it you might notice that it appears to be an open bearing. It was not supposed to be open, I found the bearing shield loose inside the reel. Poor quality control on Shimano's part.





The next pictures are the main gear, soft cast metal. This reel used to be butter smooth, but after 3 years it is not very smooth at all.



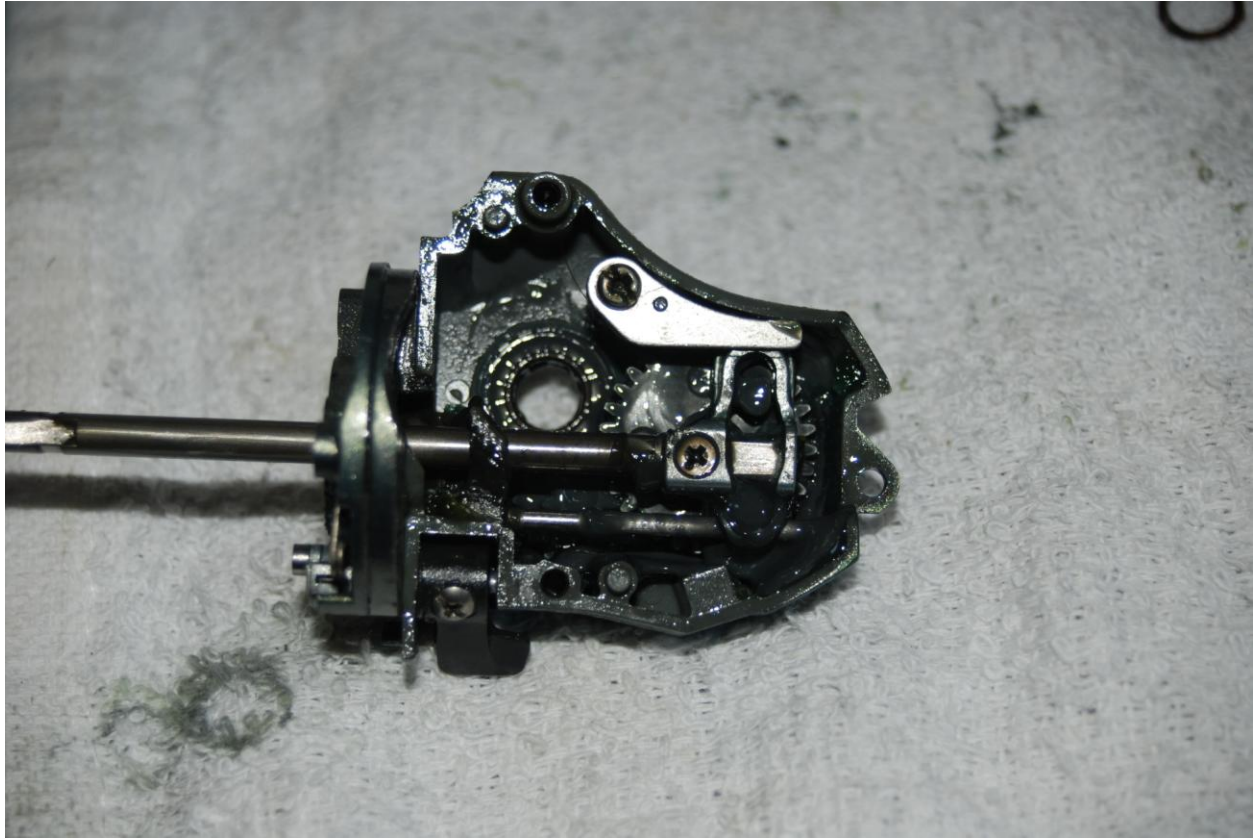


The pinion.



The gear box, the grease is dirty, but I did not see any water.

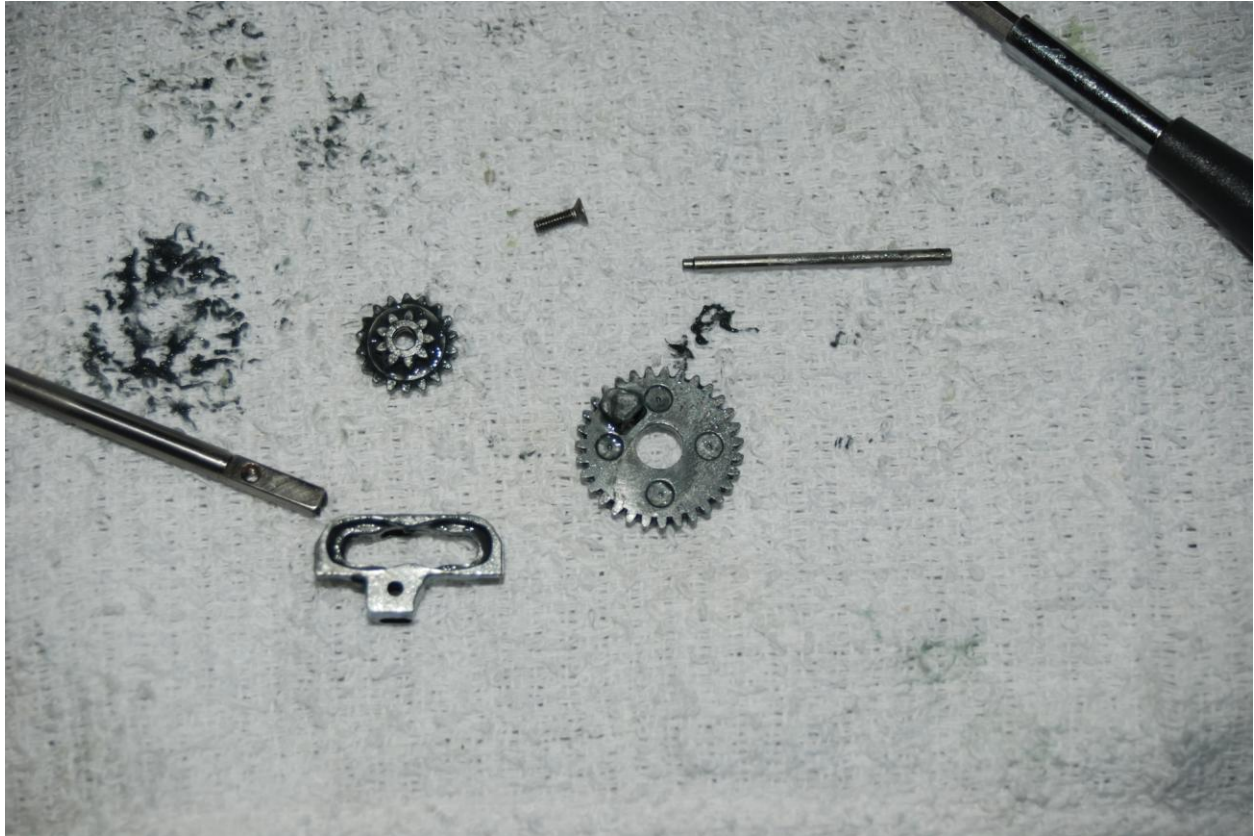




Remove the metal retainer over the oscillation channel.



The oscillation system. Shimano use a figure 8 oscillation channel, and a triangular protrusion on the large oscillation gear to engage it. Here is where I was binding, the protrusion no longer slides smoothly through the channel, it catches on the 8. I put some heavy grease on it, and am hoping for the best.



And here is that loose bearing shield.



This job was a bit complicated, and made more so by the fact that this reel has more shims around the bearings than the schematics show. Proper placement of those shims is very important, try to

remember their order. In the end this has been a very flawed reel for me. I would sell it, but I feel like this one is a lemon, and I don't want to rip anyone off. It is probably just going to end up in storage. I hope this helps anyone with this reel, and I hope shimano has improved the design for the new model.