

Stillwater patterns - Jim Rose - Elkhorn tying demonstration - 11-25-17

These flies are many of my favorites for stillwater trout fishing in Wyoming and Colorado. Several of them are very good in rivers as well and were originally designed for moving water.

1. Mylar chironomid - Although a very simple fly, this one can be very effective when fished deep in the summer or near shore under windy conditions in the spring. Hook - #14 curved shank terrestrial hook like TMC 200R, thread - white, body - medium pearlescent flashabou coated with UV resin like Solarez.
2. Red chironomid - About the simplest fly to tie, this one represents a chironomid found virtually everywhere. Hook - #14 or 16 scud hook, body - small red wire.
3. Nine Mile skinny midge - This pattern is based on a midge pupa that is abundant in plains lakes outside Laramie. Hook - #16 or 18 Tiemco 200R, thread - black fine, abdomen - 1 strand black flashabou twisted, thorax and head - black thread, wing buds - gold biots, gills - dental floss, body coated lightly with UV resin.
4. June midge - Although probably most abundant in June, this midge pupa is widely available. Hook - #14 or 12 emerger, thread black fine, shuck - two strands orange krystal flash, abdomen - black thread, abdomen - copper wire (medium for #12, small for #14) and a twisted strand of flashabou, thorax and head - black thread, wing buds - brown biots, gills - dental floss
5. Olive crystal bugger - A very dependable woolly bugger that can be trolled or stripped, it may resemble damsel nymphs. Hook - 2x-4x long #10 or 8, thread - olive, bead - gold tungsten, weight - .020 lead wire (several wraps to secure bead), tail - light olive or yellow olive marabou and 4 strands orange krystal flash, abdomen - light olive crystal chenille hackle - grizzly, rib - small gold wire (counter-wrapped)
6. Thin mint - This wooly bugger is one of the most dependable I have found for stillwater fishing. It is tied in several variations. I got this one from Jim Ross, a Laramie tier. Hook - 4x long #6-10, thread - olive or black, bead - gold, weight - .020 lead, tail - black, brown and olive marabou and 2-4 strands of flashabou, body - peacock ice dub, hackle - brown, rib - fine gold wire, counterwrapped
7. Frank's leech - My friend Frank Moore of Corvallis, Oregon showed me this fly, which works particularly well on cloudy, windy days. Hook - 4x long # 10, thread - black, weight - .020 lead wraps in front of half way point on hook, tail - black marabou, abdomen - black marabou twisted around tying thread, head - burgundy marabou wrapped around thread
8. Bob's Average Nymph. The original version of this fly was designed by Bob Giannoni when he lived in Bozeman, Montana. I have modified it into the variations described here. It has proved to be the single most productive trout fly I have used in the past 40 years. In size 10, it is highly effective when trailed about 16 inches behind the olive crystal bugger, thin mint or

grizbug. This fly is tied in size 10 and 16 with or without a brass beadhead.

Bob's size 10 without beadhead - hook - TMC 101- This is a fine wire dry fly hook but I think it has better hooking properties than a heavy hook, thread - black, weight - .020 lead, abdomen - Wapsi Awesome Possum in natural brown, rib - small gold wire, hackle - blue grouse wing shoulder feather or dark, barred, Hungarian partridge wing or back feather (fibers should extend to hook bend), thorax - Wapsi Awesome Possum brown

Bob's size 10 with beadhead Materials are the same except for a brass bead behind the hook eye. The thorax should be reduced in size such that the bead and dubbed thorax comprise only 1/3 of the fly length

Bob's size 16 with beadhead - hook - TMC 101, thread - black, weight - a couple of .010 lead wraps behind the bead, abdomen - Wapsi Awesome Possum in natural brown, rib - small gold wire, hackle - very small blue grouse wing shoulder feather or barred Hungarian partridge (fibers should extend to hook bend), thorax - Wapsi Awesome Possum brown

Bob's size 16 without beadhead - Follow the same steps as for the Size 10 without a beadhead except apply 5 wraps of 0.010 lead.

9. Grizbug - This fly, designed by the late Bob Jenkins of Laramie, WY, is a terrific all around pattern for trout in rivers and lakes as well as warm water species like bass. For trout in streams, it can be swung downstream or cast upstream and stripped downstream (i.e. the jerk and strip retrieve). Hook - #6, 4X long. Brass bead at head, weight - .025 lead wraps in middle third of hook reduce jigging action on retrieve, tail – brown marabou and about 4 strips of clear flashabou, body – dark olive chenille, hackle - grizzly saddle, rib -small or medium gold wire, counter-wrapped

10. Starling and herl - This is a classic soft-hackle fly that is very under-used. It's great for trout in lakes and ponds, but also very good in streams. Hook - #16 or 18, 1X or 2X long, body-peacock herl wraps, hackle – iridescent breast feather from a starling skin. Hackle should extend at least to end of hook or somewhat longer. Strip filaments from one side of hackle to keep it sparse.