

February's Fly of the Month, Bait Fish

Hook: Salt water Limerick style, Mustad # 310100 or 34007, size 1 to 3/0

Thread: Clear, white, or red for accent.

Body: EP fibers, White River "Neer Hair", or similar synthetic fibers.

Eyes: - Craft store "Googly Eyes" 5 MM or 6 MM size.

Glue: - Any clear waterproof glue. "Bond527", "Seal-All", "Amazing Goop", or epoxy.

Vertical bars: "Sharpie" marker in black and red.

My interpretation of Enrico Puglisi's "Bait Fish" pattern:

Step # 1 Tie in a base of thread and keep it near the hook eye.



Photo # 2 Tie in a pencil sized segment of the light color synthetic fibers on the lower side of the hook and double them back. Tie them inline to face backwards toward the hook bend. Add head cement as desired to the thread windings. Let the cement dry before the next step.



Photo # 3 Tie in an additional segment of the same light color fibers over the top of the same clump that was already tied in to give the body vertical depth. Add head cement as desired to the thread windings and let it dry before the next step.



Photo # 4 Tie in an intermediate color synthetic fiber segment on the top of the hook shank and double it back to flow back over, and extend out over the top of the hook bend. Add head cement as desired to the thread windings and let it dry before the next step.



Photo # 5 Tie in a segment of darker color synthetic fibers directly over the top of the intermediate color fibers to add vertical depth. Whip finish a head and trim off the thread. Add head cement to the thread windings and let it dry before the next step.



Photo # 6 Spread a thin application of the glue to the area of fibers around the area of the head on both sides and flow it into the fibers with a wet finger. Shape the head section to be tall and narrow.



Photo # 7 Apply a dot of glue to the thread winding on both sides and insert a doll eye to each side. Let the glue dry overnight.



Photo # 8 Add vertical bars of color to the body with the black sharpie. Add a small red smile under the chin to imitate the exposed gill. Trim the top and bottom fibers to taper down to a thin tail section. This is the completed fly as you see it dry on the vise.



Photo # 9 Completed fly - wet - as it appears in the water to game fish. For previous Fly of the Month recipes, please visit our web site at <http://www.firelandsflyfishers.org>

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