

## Free State Fly Fishers' Saturday November 7 Fly Tying Session 10 AM

Joe Bruce will be leading the club's November 7<sup>th</sup> fly tying session and share how to tie his very effective bullethead darter, used to catch a multitude of different species.



### BRUCE'S BULLETHEAD DARTER

Having owned a fly shop for fifteen years (The Fisherman's Edge in Baltimore, Maryland) and fly fishing for a half of century it is hard to get me excited about a new fly pattern, but this variation on a old tying style has convinced me that this is the best shallow water fly for non-aggressive fish as well as the aggressive ones. Bullet heads have been around a long while and seem to fall in and out of favor, but this definitely a fly that should be part of ones salt & freshwater arsenal. It works well for the smallmouth & largemouth bass, chain pickerel and by changing to a smaller version; it will take sunfish and crappie.

This has fast become one of my favorite subsurface flies. It can be fished across stream, downstream or upstream with the same effectiveness. It is much like a popper in the fact that you can see the fly during the retrieve and especially the strike. In a pond, it is the closes thing to a Bass Assassin you can get in a fly. It darts, suspends, dives, flashes; the fish just can't stand it. It can be tied very full, for slower sinking or thinner for a little faster sink rate. I would suggest a few of both.

To Date, the Bullethead has taken 32 diferent species of fish from bluegill to tarpon. It can be tied in many color combinations to represent any fish prey species. I **have a complete booklet on tying the Bullethead, check out my website: [www.joebruce.net](http://www.joebruce.net)**.

#### MATERIAL:

Hook:	Mustad #3366, sizes 6 to 1/0. I like #1/0 for bass. Saltwater- Mustad # 34007, #2 to 3/0
Thread:	Fire-orange flat waxed nylon
Mono Tail Guard:	20 lb clear monofilament
Tail:	Streamer Hair wool or Polar Fiber. I prefer Streamer Hair for larger flies and Polar Fiber for small flies.
Tinsel:	5 to 6 fibers each of silver Crystal Flash, Rainbow Flashabou.
Body:	pearl, chartreuse, peacock Estaz. or Crystal Chenille
Collar & Veil:	Polar Fiber or Streamer Hair