

## SMOKE JUMPER



By Bob Bates

To me this is an interesting pattern that is not too difficult to tie and it catches fish, both good objectives. Carolyn Sells tied this fly at the 2009 Washington State Council Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carolyn didn't talk about the history of the pattern while she tied it, so I did an internet search on "Smoke Jumper fly pattern."

Guess what? Other patterns with the same name showed up. It turns out that Mike Hoiness, Yellowstone Fly Goods, tied the original one as a crippled midge emerger. Yellowstone Fly Goods, Billings, MT is a distributor, and they have marketed their Smoke Jumper for four years to fly shops in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, etc.. Their flies are tied on Tiemco 2488 or DaiRiki 125 hooks with a scud back body, CDC shell back and wing and peacock herl thorax. If you want to see the original check their website: <http://yellowstoneflygoods.com/flypatterns.aspx?BCID=1> and scroll down to Dry Midges & Spinners.

Now back to Carolyn's Smoke Jumper. Hers is a Hackle Stacker pattern. That is kind of obvious when you look at the fly above. The original Hackle Stacker is a mayfly emerger pattern. Bob Quigley is often cited as the developer of this fly although the technique can also be attributed to Jim Cramer and the late Ned Long. As with any technique that produces great trout catching flies there are many variations for mayflies, midges and other insects.

The springtime websites in the Montana and Idaho talk about using it to attract fish feeding on midges. Naturally, they recommend smaller sizes 18 – 20. Your job is to look at the insects trout are feeding on in your favorite stream, and tie the sizes and colors needed.

Fish it like any other dry fly or emerger: Floating line, long leader and drag free float. The smaller flies are hard to see so some anglers string it behind a more visible pattern like a hopper or parachute with a Hi-Viz wing. Then if you see a splash behind the visible pattern, strike gently.

**Materials List:**

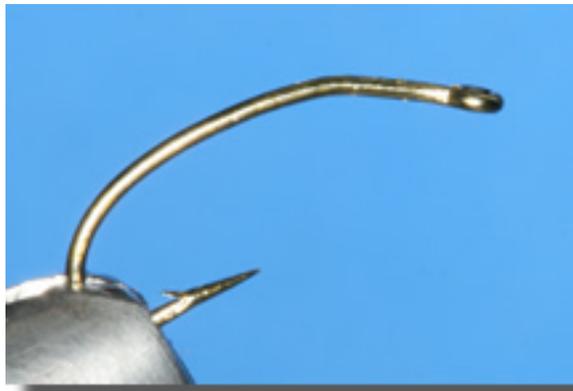
**Hook:** Tiemco TMC 2312 sizes 14-22 TMC 200R is OK for smaller sizes

**Thread:** White 14/0

**Body:** Stretch tubing, micro size

**Hackle:** Grizzly

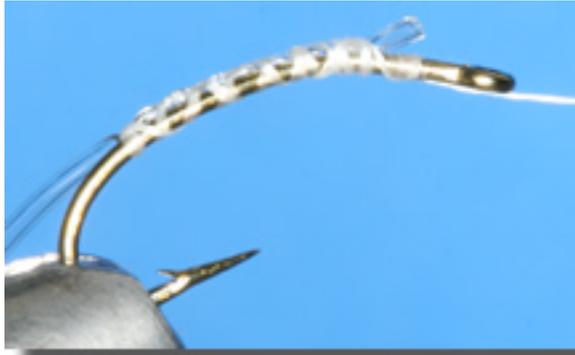
**Tying steps:**



1. Bend the front part of the hook downward a little as shown. Be careful to not damage the hook when you do this. Use smooth jaw pliers or the jaws of the vise. Serrated jaw pliers can damage the hook so it will break when a nice fish hits. Believe me, I know.



2. Wind thread on hook from eye to the bend you put in shank.



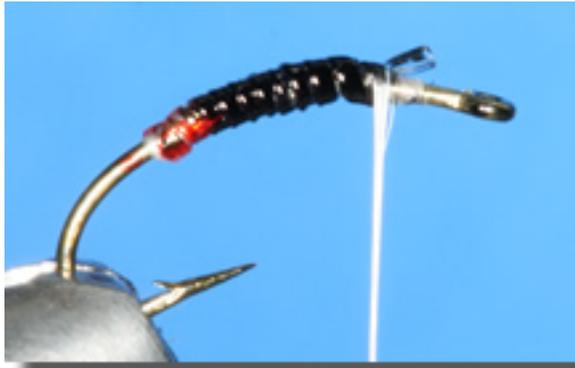
3. Secure Stretch Tubing at the bend you put in the shank, spiral thread tightly rearward to a point over the barb. Spiral thread forward to front of Stretch Tubing and half hitch. Now you can put the thread out of the way on a post, etc. as Carolyn did.



4. Pull the Stretch Tubing tightly, wrap it forward to the bent shank and secure. Trim excess tubing.



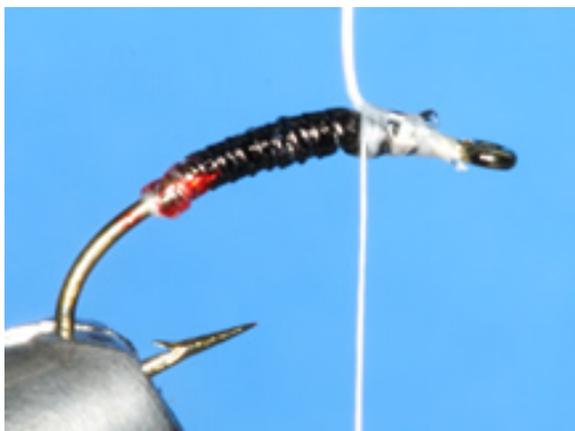
5. With a red permanent marker, paint rear 1/3<sup>rd</sup> or 1/4<sup>th</sup> of Stretch Tubing all the way around hook.



6. Use a black permanent marker to paint over some of the red and the rest of the Stretch Tubing.



7. Tie a loop of 5X tippet at front of body. Make the loop of the proper length to fit on a gallows tool. (Although not as convenient, Step 10 can be done without a gallows tool. Make the loop short enough so it can be held with the first finger of the left hand, and you will be able to wrap the hackle with the right hand.)



8. Put monofilament loop on gallows tool.



9. Select a hackle with barbs (fibers) of a standard length for the hook size. The barb length should be equal to 1-1/2 times the gap width. Attach to hook in front of monofilament loop with long part of hackle to rear.



10. Wrap hackle 6 turns up and 6 turns down, and secure around monofilament loop.



11. Wind thread to eye. Take loop off gallows tool, and spread loop to move the hackle down to hook.



12. Stroke barbs back, pull monofilament loop forward through the barbs and put a couple of thread wraps over it. Keep barbs out of the way to prevent trapping them, pull the loop hard forward, secure loop and wind thread to eye. Trim excess monofilament loop.



13. Whip finish, trim thread and paint head with black marker.

**Closing comments:** This pattern is a combination of two other patterns the original Smoke Jumper and the original Hackle Stacker. It catches fish, and the tying technique can be used to tie a variety of patterns including blue wing olives and pale morning duns. You might want to use a smaller material for the body on small flies. Invent your own to solve that special fishing problem. With smaller flies, like 22, 24 and 26, some tiers will use 7X or 8X tippet for the monofilament loop. These patterns catch fish so tie up a few, and go fishing.

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.  
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthefmonth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthefmonth@fedflyfishers.org)