

Jeff's Spiny Midge



Recipe

Hook: Mustad #94838 Size: 18 or
Mustad #94840 Size: 20-22
Thread: Cream, 6/0
Tail: 2 Calf Tail Fibers
Body: Clear Antron Dubbing; atop the
shank behind the eye. Tie on a
small clump of egg yarn; pull yarn
up and snip it short.
Hackle: 1 turn of Grizzly, chipped short on
top.

Tying Tips: Standard Techniques.

Fishing Tips: This pattern represents the 'Spiny Water Flea' (*Bythotrephes longimanus*), and should be fished whenever they are found in the water. This pattern works well.

Historical Note: Jeff Bonin, the owner of Steelhead Connection Custom Flies. He designed this pattern in 1995 when he first encountered the Spiny Water Fleas on the Muskegon River. *

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* The spiny water fleas, *Bythotrephes longimanus*, were first discovered in the Great Lakes watershed in the early 1980s. They are an invasive species originating in Europe and Asia. They are thought to have arrived in ballast water of commercial freighters. The water flea is a crustacean that prefers living in open, deep, clear waters. It prefers lakes but is also found in rivers. They are showing up with more regularity on some of our trout streams.