



# June Fly Of The Month

The Bees Knees

## Murdich Minnow

By Todd A. Schotts



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For the June fly of the Month we are heading back to the warm water arena, with a pattern that was originally designed to fish Strippers in Saltwater, but has taken the Midwest by storm for fishing warm water species. The fly is the “Murdich Minnow.”

Originally created by Bill Murdich it has a foggy time frame so to when it was created. But about 9 years ago or so, this pattern was starting to be found around the Midwest for fishing various warm water species. Aside from this well known pattern, Bill also designed the Murdich Wiggler, another great pattern if you are targeting warm water species. Both of these patterns can be found through Umpqua Feather Merchants and various fly shops. I know from being a bass junky, this pattern is like that old saying “it’s the bee’s knees” and should be in your fly box at all times.

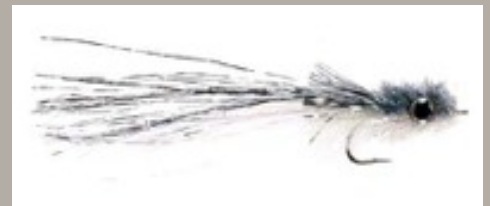
One nice thing about this pattern, is that depending on which colors it is tied in, it can resemble many different types of minnow species that are in the watersheds you may target. Remember when you are tying this pattern, it is

considered a subsurface type of a pattern; it doesn’t get down to the bottom in the water column. Keep in mind, there are two ways of tying this fly. One way is as the recipe listed on this page, or the other way is to tie it with a large head area.

When fishing this pattern it casts easily, swims extremely well, and has a very typical minnow profile and can cover a lot of water. This pattern can be stripped fast, or slowly over structure. However you present this pattern, the results are usually the same, hard hitting strikes. And as with most patterns without any weight, you can get this down into the water column by fishing on intermediate, sink tip, or full sinking line. Smallmouth Bass like this pattern as well as any species that enjoy minnow meals, such as Large Mouth Bass, White Bass, Pike, Trout, Musky, or Steelhead.

If you are planning on having tight lines while chasing a species of fish that enjoy the fine dining of minnows, then make room in your boxes for this pattern. Until next month Tight Lines and Snazzy Flies.

*Murdich Minnow*



**HOOK:** TMC8089NP, Mustad 3366, Allen Hooks B200, sizes 10 through 3/0

**THREAD:** White 6/0 or 140 Denier thread

**TAIL:** Silver Flashabou over white Bucktail with pearl Flashabou or Krystal Flash

**COLLAR:** Silver Flashabou over white Ice Fur

**BODY/HEAD:** Pearl Estaz, top colored with cool gray Pantone pen. If needed, use underbody of white medium chenille for bulk

**EYES:** Silver, Red, or Pearl molded or 3D eyes, size 5.0

FLY FISHING