

Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

<http://www.vcfa.org>

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APRIL 2024

Everything changes – the seasons, the tides, the weather, people as do the fish. An obvious statement, but many times we overlook the obvious and pursue our adventures in a routine and all too familiar way. To many fly fishing is often no different! We take the same trips, fish the same locations, use the same flies ... This year the club, thanks to Ed Pacheco, has added some new things to our plate. Wade Fishing Weekend (which was a rainout) was one example of doing something in our own backyard and outside of our usual events. The Poquoson Flats trip is another relatively new idea to get people without boats paired up with those that have them and get more members on the water fishing. Our trip to the Back Bay Wildlife Refuge was a success thanks to Lee Owens who set that up as an early year trip for pickerel and bass. We have other things in the works (including some of the tried-and-true trips such as Harker's Island). Things will be posted on the Website (<http://www.vcfa.org>) and Facebook page as we have them organized.

As for other things, I have been fly fishing now for 40 years and still work to improve my skills. I practice my casting for accuracy and control. Distance is not usually a concern, but I still have to fight the winds in more inclement weather situations. The open water can be a challenging element for most casters, but I often struggle when the blow is 20 mph or above. But still, I strive to overcome.

Most everyone who know me understands, I love the art of fly tying. I made it a goal

a long time ago to learn to tie all types of flies from the basic freshwater flies, to fully dressed salmon flies and everything in between. During my years as a commercial tier, I would absorb new ideas and techniques from other tiers that I sat next to at the shows. We would exchange patterns and tips that always went into the back of my mind. They

would be incorporated into the patterns that I tied for me and customers. I also, made the effort to learn the history of the art. Getting to know the past tiers that led the way. And getting to know many of them personally has fueled my great passion for

the sport.

The inspiration of Ed Whitlock, Poul Jorgensen, Joe Humphrey, Kenney Abrames, Lefty Kreh, Bob Clouser, Bob Popovics and so many others that I got to know and spend time with is priceless. I was lucky in my 20 years in New Jersey these greats would visit often and we would get them to do full day casting classes, tying, on the water seminars. These all-day events were instrumental in my love of the sport. I learned that the experiences along the way are the true thrill of the sport. The knowledge of different techniques in casting, patterns to tie and fish, places to venture are really the value of my fly-fishing experience. I may not get to take a trip to that exotic faraway excursion, but I am con-



Presidents message continued on next page

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Lawrence Clemens, President: Vice-President, John Adametz: Treasurer, Gordon Meeks: Secretary, Lee Owen and Jim Saddler: **MEMBERS AT LARGE:** Carl Allen, David Dembicki, Gary Green, Mark Kirkby, Chris Malgee, Ed Pacheco, Chris Viano

tent catching what is offered in my little part of the world. My trips have taken me to many nice locations that are etched in my memories and the journey has been wonderful. This sport is my hobby and one that I love. I don't get caught up in the politics or competition that can get so ugly. I enjoy each moment I am on the water and can try something new. Catching fish is great and I love the battle, especially the big fish, but I appreciate the little ones equally and am glad for the peace and pleasure that they have brought into my life. Wherever your journey takes you, enjoy the ride! Learn as much as you want and can and you will appreciate the sport that much more. Like EVERYTHING in life, you will get out of it what you put into it.

APRIL MEETING

APRIL 18, 2024

BEAU BEASLEY

Beau Beasley spent three decades as a career firefighter and paramedic for Fairfax County—making him just the man you hope to have on hand if you've been shot, stabbed, or electrocuted. Though he grew up spin fishing in farm ponds and on North Carolina's Outer Banks, his love of fly angling began after a grateful patient introduced him to the sport.

Beasley is an outdoor investigative journalist focused on conservation, public access (particularly contested river ownership and use), and species management issues. He won the Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association Talbot Denmead Memorial Award for an article on menhaden management. His work on bonefish management was picked up by newspapers in the Bahamas and also presented to members of Congress. Beasley's writing has appeared in national fly-fishing magazines like Fly Fisherman, Strung, American Angler, Fly Tyer and Trout as well as regional publications like Virginia Outdoor Weekly, Virginia Wildlife, Virginia Living, Blue Ridge Outdoors, the Roanoke Times, and the Baltimore Sun. He is the author of Fly Fishing Virginia and Fly Fishing the Mid-Atlantic. Beasley's latest book Healing Waters: Veterans' Stories of Recovery in Their Own Words will be released December 2023.

When he isn't writing, Beau Beasley runs the Virginia Fly Fishing & Wine Festival.





POQUOSON TRIP RESCHEDULED



SATURDAY 20 APRIL OR SUNDAY 21 APRIL.

Due to the forecasted winds our Poquoson Flats trip was rescheduled to the alternate dates of April 20 (backup of April 21). If you have any questions contact the angler you were assigned to and make plans based on the new dates. If you have further questions, contact Ed Pacheco

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION VA GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The 2024 session came to a close earlier this month, and the Governor is now working on reviewing/signing bills and considering amendments to the state budget. Key bills the Governor has the opportunity to sign:

Wetlands: CBF opposed HB 1182 (Ennis), which would lower the standards for certification of wetlands delineators, however, it was successfully passed by both chambers and is before the Governor for signature.

Trees:

- **House Bill 309 (Hope)/SB 461 (Marsden)** - requires the Department of Forestry, in coordination with a stakeholder advisory group, to develop a Forest Conservation Plan. The bill will create a baseline canopy assessment to determine how many acres of the state's forests are healthy, how many acres are being lost and why, and identify opportunities for further conservation efforts.

- **HB 459 (Sullivan)/SB 121 (Subramanyam)** - provides local governments the option to incentivize developers to conduct a stand assessment—before a site plan is submitted for approval—and take necessary precautions to preserve existing healthy trees on site. This bill also expands the use of a locality's tree fund to not just plant new trees, but also maintain newly planted trees on public and private property.

Toxic Pavement Sealant Ban: HB 985 (Tran) - bans toxic pavement sealants, which contain high levels of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) that are harmful to humans and wildlife.

Resilience and flood bill: HB 1458 (Hernandez) would create the Office of Commonwealth Resilience and Chief Resilience Officer (CRO).

More information on all of these bills can be found at:

Bill Tracker - Virginia Conservation Network (vcnva.org)

2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

These are the items planned at this time. They are subject to change

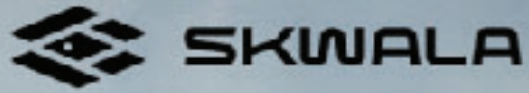
MONTH	SPEAKER	FLY OF THE MONTH
JANUARY 20	BANQUET	NO FLY
FEBRUARY 18	WAYNE MAGMASTERS	HALF AND HALF
MARCH 21	STEVE ATKINSON	MUSHMOUTH
MARCH 23	DALE MAZZERELLA	NO FLY
APRIL 6	POQUOSON FLATS-TRIP	NO FLY
APRIL 18	BEAU BEASLEY	EP PEANUT BUTTER
MAY 11	PICNIC	NO FLY
JUNE 20	MARK SEDOTI	SILI-MINNOW
JULY 18	CASTING CLINIC	NO FLY
AUGUST 15	COLBY TROW	TBD
SEPTEMBER 19	TBD	BORSKI SLIDER
OCTOBER 17	VIRGINIA TROPHY GUIDES	SURF CANDY
NOVEMBER 21	CARL ALLENS ALASKA	S.F. DECEIVER
DECEMBER	NO MEETING	NO FLY

INDICATES MEETINGS THAT ARE IN ADDITION TO OUR GENERAL MEETING AND ON A DIFFERENT DAY

These are the items planned at this time. They are subject to change

JUNE 20: CASTING CLASS WITH MARK SEDOTTI. INSTRUCTION ON HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR LONG CAST AND CAST BIG FLIES WITH ONE OF THE BEST.

AUGUST 17: WE MAY BE HAVING A SPECIAL TYING SESSION DURING THE DAY WITH COLBY TROW. WHEN CONFIRMED, WE WILL OPEN IT TO THE FIRST 10 PERSONS TO RESPOND.



FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

2024



PIPER NUNN

Date: April 19, 2024

Location: Virginia Beach Museum of Contemporary Art, 2200 Parks Ave, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Time: Doors open at 5:00; movie starts at 7:00pm

Tickets: **\$35** →

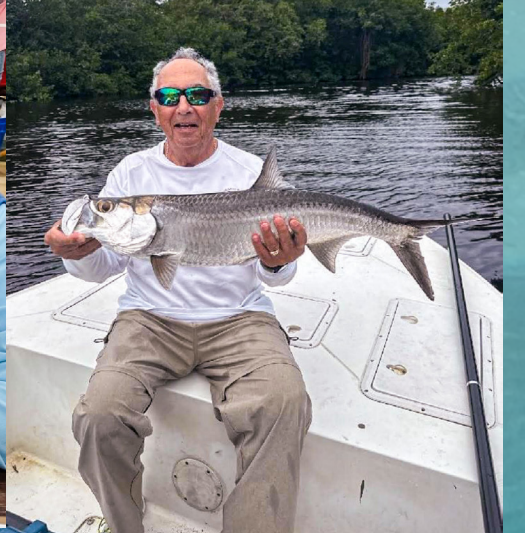
(includes film, two drinks, raffle ticket)

All proceeds go to Lynnhaven River Now, Elizabeth River Project and Release over 20.



Current Culture Fly





CASTING CORNER

John Adametz

John Adametz is passionate about fly fishing and is a credentialed Master Casting Instructor with Fly Fishers International. He is a member of Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers club where he volunteers as Vice President and Casting Chair and is the Founder of Adametz Fly Fishing Academy. Contact information: john.adametz@gmail.com, cell 240.818.6787



The Roll Cast

I have often said that the more I learn, the more I realize I do not know, which also applies to fly fishing. Fly fishing can be a very complicated and complex endeavor considering all the factors involved in trying to outwit a fish who spends their entire life in the natural environment. When teaching fly casting, I like to keep things simple and believe having just two casts in your arsenal can help any fly fisher at any level get on the water and catch fish in most situations, those being the Roll Cast and Pick Up Lay Down (PULD). We'll tackle the Roll Cast this month and PULD next month.

Of the many uses of a roll cast, four primary uses include (1) moving the fly away from your body after stripping line off the reel, thus eliminating slack, (2) no room for a back cast, (3) windy conditions, and (4) making a quick and efficient cast.

Three Steps to execute a Roll Cast

Assuming you just arrived at the water, strip line off the reel, point the rod at the water and move the rod back and forth in a few rapid successions to enable the line to slide through the rod tip top guide. For instructional purposes, let's assume a right-handed caster, Southpaws can substitute left for right below!

With the line in a pile at your feet, and the line anchored with your right hand, point your rod tip to the water.

Sweep the rod tip slowly laterally to the right 180 degrees reaching behind you, then up vertically toward the sky such that your right hand stops at eye level if you looked to your right, with the rod tip angled 20 degrees to the right, outward, away from your body. The rod and the sagging line behind your body now form the shape of a D.

Now for the magic! Imagine two rails of a railroad track in front of you, and your casting target to be along the right rail. Further, imagine you want to flick paint off a paint brush

such that the paint is propelled away from your body. Too slow and the paint does not go very far, too fast and the paint ends up on your wrist! Now, just execute a forward cast. That is, move the rod with smooth acceleration, slow to fast, with an abrupt stop, through an arc proportional to the amount of line you have outside of the rod tip. For example, an arc from 12 – 10 on clockface for 20' feet of line (which counting the rod length and the leader) will give you about a 40' roll cast....sweet! To get this movement and proper bend the rod tip, I like to drop my elbow while moving my hand away from my body.

Executed well, the rod tip will bend through a straight-line path, and the line will unroll down the right railroad track in a horizontal, flat shaped loop with the fly ready to fish! Later, try it with a haul for more distance, off shoulder (rod tip, cantilevered to the left, aiming toward the left railroad track), sidearm, or combine with a PULD!

Any day fishing is a great day! Tight lines!



Dave Dembicki is the winner of the latest TFO rod raffle. The second time he has won the raffle!

STRIPED BASS HARVEST RESTRICTIONS TRIGGER WIDE-SPREAD IMPACT

Timothy Wheeler



It's going to be a lean year for those who like to catch or eat Atlantic striped bass — with still leaner times perhaps to come.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, which regulates inshore fishing for migratory species, has ordered new curbs, starting May 1, on both recreational and commercial catches of the popular finfish, also known as rockfish in the Chesapeake Bay region.

Amid persistent signs of trouble with the species, the commission's striped bass management board decided Jan. 24 to limit all anglers in the Chesapeake and its tributaries to landing one striper a day, and only if it's between 19 inches and 24 inches long. Ocean anglers likewise can keep just one fish a day, but with a narrower legal-size window of 28 to 31 inches.

Maryland and Virginia watermen, meanwhile, face a 7% reduction in their allowed commercial harvest of the fish. The board ordered those curbs with the hope of restoring the species' abundance after a worrisome decline in recent years. Whether this will be enough for the struggling species to rebound is a toss-up. Equally uncertain is how many people who now earn a living pursuing them will be able to do so in years to come.

One of the most sought-after commercial and sport fish in the Bay and along the coast, striped bass range the Atlantic from Canada to the Carolinas. The Chesapeake serves as the primary spawning and nursery ground for 70–90% of the coastwide population. For five straight years, they've suffered from poor reproduction in Maryland's portion of the Bay and its tributaries, with below-par spawning reported last year in Virginia.

The commission had already tightened catch limits after scientists warned in 2019 that striped bass were being overfished and that the number of adult female fish had fallen below what is needed to sustain the population. Scientists noted then that the wide-

spread practice of catch-and-release fishing was killing a significant number of striped bass, especially in summer when warm water temperatures and lower oxygen levels further stress fish that are caught and handled.

After cutting recreational catches to one fish a day virtually everywhere, East Coast fishery managers thought that would be enough to eventually restore the population.

They were jolted last year when surveys indicated the estimated recreational catch had nearly doubled in 2022.

In response, the commission took emergency action in May 2023, imposing a 31-inch maximum size limit on all recreationally caught fish. That was an interim measure to protect fish spawned in 2015, the last year of abundant reproduction. But managers agreed then that more curbs likely would be needed to help the fish back reach a sustainable level by the legally mandated deadline of 2029.

This is not the first time the Bay's rockfish have been in trouble. Fishing pressure whittled away at the population until the early 1980s, when surveys found few juveniles in the Bay. In 1985, Maryland imposed a moratorium on recreational and commercial harvests, and Virginia followed suit a few years later. The stock rebounded quickly, allowing limited fishing to resume in 1990.

The situation now is not as dire as it was then, but fishery managers and conservationists say they are determined not to let it go that far.

STRONG REACTIONS

Few decisions by the Atlantic states commission have generated as much public debate as the menu of recreational and commercial catch cuts that it weighed prior to the January meeting. Nearly 700 people spoke at 15 hearings in 13 states in November and December; the commission also received more than 2,800 written comments.



Fisheries biologists with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources survey and tag striped bass in the Chesapeake Bay each year to survey the species' population. (Stephen Badger/Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources)

The debate continued during the board's five-hour January meeting in Arlington, VA, as commission members from different states pondered how to spread the pain of reducing the catch.

The new recreational catch size “slots” were chosen with the hope of conserving two groups of fish: those not yet old enough to spawn and larger ones that are prolific spawners.

The board’s scientific advisors project that the new size restrictions will reduce the overall recreational catch of striped bass by 14.5%. For Maryland’s charter fishing industry, though, the cutback will be more severe because until now their customers have been allowed to keep two fish a day.

That’s been a sore point with many sports anglers, who pressed the board to impose a one-fish limit across the board this year, with no exceptions.

Mike Luisi, a commission member and fisheries manager with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, warned that cutting the state’s charter boat clients’ catch to one fish a day “will put people out of business.” He tried, without success, to persuade the board to soften the economic impact on the for-hire fleet or place some less onerous alternative restriction on them.

Others, though, insisted on a uniform one-fish daily limit in the Bay and coastwide.

“The dark days are coming,” warned David Sikorski, a commission member and executive director of the Coastal Conservation Association of Maryland. “It’s time to buck up [and] reduce fishing mortality.”

The striped bass management board also struggled over what do about the commercial harvest.

Some members, heeding appeals from recreational anglers, wanted to cut the fishing industry’s catch quota by 14%, roughly on par with the recreational reductions they’d agreed to. But others argued the industry shouldn’t pay for the excesses of recreational anglers along the Atlantic coast, who had been mainly responsible for the big increase in estimated fishing mortality. More than half of the 2022 recreational catch came from New Jersey and New York, the commission said, with just 20% from the Bay.



PHOTO: Will Parson

Striped bass lie in the hold of a charter fishing boat in Chesapeake Beach, MD. (Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program)

“The problem is not with the commercial fishery,” argued Robert T. Brown Sr., president of the Maryland Watermen’s Association. Commercial fishing is tightly regulated, he pointed out, with each fish caught, tagged and accounted for, and the catch quota already reduced in previous years. The recreational fishery accounts for 90% of the coastwide loss of striped bass, commission estimates show, though in the Chesapeake, commercial harvest accounts for more than one-third of the total catch.

In the end, the board compromised on a 7% reduction in harvest quota.

“The commercial fishery is responsible for some mortality of striped bass, and I believe they should pay into what’s needed to restore [the population],” said Jeff Kaelin, a commission member from New Jersey.

But in ordering that the cut take effect May 1, the board made it difficult if not impossible for Maryland and Virginia to comply. The 2024 commercial fishing season for striped bass is already underway in both states, and fishery managers said they had already distributed fish tags to individual license holders based on the previous year’s quota. If watermen catch what they’ve been authorized to take by virtue of the tags, they’ll exceed the new quota and be penalized by having their allowable catch reduced that much more next year.

After the commission meeting, Brown acknowledged the reduction imposed on the commercial fishery could have been worse. But he remained opposed to any catch cut-backs for watermen or for charter businesses, saying they are an unwarranted hardship on both industries.

CHARTER BOAT IMPACTS

Brian Hardman, head of Maryland’s charter boat association, said he expects at least some of the state’s 377 for-hire fishing businesses to founder. He said many clients won’t be interested in going out for just one fish, and some repeat customers have already called to cancel bookings for this year.

“If we had a whole host of other fish to fish on, we would have other options,” he said. But with business already down from what it had been before the pandemic, Hardman predicted bookings would decline another 35–50%. “How long can we sustain that?” he asked.

The Maryland charter fleet reported catching 101,000 striped bass in 2022, according to state data. That’s a tiny fraction of the total recreational catch of around 3.4 million fish in the Bay and coastwide that year, according to estimates drawn from voluntary angler surveys.

“We’re the smallest user group and catch the least amount of fish,” Hardman said. “You can’t solve any problems on our backs.”



Captain Brian Hardman (left) of Lead Dog Charters and his mate, Luke Kalhorn, fillet striped bass at a marina in Stevensville, MD.

PHOTO: Dave Harp

Luisi of the state Department of Natural Resources had, to no avail, asked the striped bass board to delay the charter industry's one-fish-per-customer daily limit until 2025 to give skippers time to prepare for the cutback. The board also rejected his suggestion to impose tighter length limits for the charter catch, which he said would offset the impact of the two-fish allowance.

Afterward, Hardman said he's called on DNR officials to defy the Atlantic states commission's directive and let charter fishing clients keep two fish a day, at least for the rest of this year.

But Kristen Fidler, assistant DNR secretary for aquatic resources, said officials aren't contemplating bucking the commission. Violating the commission's order, she said, risks the federal government imposing a total moratorium on fishing for striped bass in Maryland. "It would be a worse outcome," she pointed out.

Conservationists welcomed the commission's actions while acknowledging it may cause financial hardship for some.

"I think we're at the point with striped bass that we have to pull every single lever we can pull," said Allison Colden, Maryland director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. "When things get really hard, it's incumbent on everyone involved in the resource to participate in its conservation."

She noted that still more curbs may be needed. The cuts made so far improve the odds of restoring striped bass to sustainable levels by 2029, but only to about 50–50, according to the commission's scientific advisors. They are to provide an updated assessment by year's end, incorporating more recent data. If the population rebuild is still not on track, the commission agreed to take prompt action.

"This may not be the end of things, depending on how that assessment update turns out," Colden said.

MD TAKES EXTRA STEPS

Meanwhile, Maryland is imposing additional striped bass fishing restrictions beyond what the Atlantic states commission has ordered.

A joint legislative committee in February approved emergency regulations that lengthen the time in spring when recreational fishing for striped bass is prohibited in Maryland's portion of the Bay and its tributaries. "Targeting" of striped bass, which includes catch-and-release, will be barred from April 1 through May 15.

Fishing for striped bass was already prohibited in April, but the new rules extend the closure by two weeks. That eliminates the state's "trophy" striped bass season — the first two weeks of May, when recreational and charter anglers had been able to keep one fish a day 35 inches or longer.

The rules also extend an existing early-season prohibition on fishing for striped bass in the Susquehanna Flats, prime fish habitat, until the end of May.

Amid complaints about the rules from both recreational and commercial fishing groups, the House-Senate committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review held a hearing on Feb. 2.

Some recreational anglers have objected to being prohibited from catch-and-release in the spring, arguing that there's no evidence fish die from being handled then. They did not testify, however.

Before the hearing, DNR's Luisi acknowledged that there's little risk in spring of killing spawning striped bass that are hooked and then let go. But scientists don't know what impact catch-and-release might have on spawning behavior and success, he said.

"We wanted to give striped bass as much chance as possible not to be interacted with [in April and May] to complete their spawning activity," he said.

Hardman, the charter captain, countered that DNR's proposal didn't go far enough. If the state really wants to promote successful spawning, he said, then it should stop allowing recreational catch-and-release fishing even earlier — during the first three months of the year, when there's evidence the big fish are entering the Bay to spawn earlier than in the past. "You're going to put a Band-Aid on May and act like you're doing something. It's ridiculous," he said. "If you want to protect them, protect them. Close it down."

DNR has said it intends to propose further regulations later this year, including a one-week extension of the summertime "no targeting" closure of striped bass fishing. That would run from mid-July through the first week of August, when hot temperatures weaken fish and increase the likelihood that even catch-and-release kills them. Luisi said DNR might consider including a March closure in those proposed rules.

(Comments made by Robert T. Brown Sr., president of the Maryland Watermen's Association, have been revised from the original posting to more fully reflect his overall position on the ASMFC decision.)

EP PEANUT BUTTER

Enrico Puglisi is a New York fly tier and innovator of EP products. Among his offerings are EP Fibers, EP brushes, Crab Eyes, and many other innovations. He has developed numerous patterns based on his materials. The Peanut Butter is the one that started it all. Though I have chosen to show a lot of steps to tying this pattern, it is a simple tie. The steps and density of materials are critical to the fly swimming correctly in the water. For materials LESS is MORE!! These fibers do not absorb water so it does not have a quick descent in the water column. If you want to get it down, you need to keep it sparse. I add a few wraps of lead to the hookshank before tying it to help sink the fly. I do not add the weight if I want it at the top of the water column (subsurface) or fishing it in very shallow water. This pattern is as Enrico originally tied it. There are a few other tiers who have streamlined the pattern a bit and the final product is similar in its' look and action.

Materials List:

HOOK:	Gamakatsu SC15, Size 1/0
THREAD:	Mono
GILLS:	EP Silky Fibers (RED)
FLASH:	Ripple Ice Fiber
TOP COLOR:	Desired color of EP Fiber (Aquamarine in this tie)
LATERAL LINE:	Pink EP Fiber (VERY SPARSE)
BOTTOM COLOR:	EP Fiber (White)
EYES:	Prismatic 3-D

- Sparse is the key to the success of this fly. Tie small bunces of materials and keep the bulk to a minimum.
- You can add a few wraps of lead to the hook shank if you want the fly to sink a little faster.
- The material can mat when wet. It helps to have a comb handy when fishing to brush out the kinks so the fly swims better in the water.
- This fly can easily be trimmed to a smaller profile. Carry a pair of scissors to trim it down if desired
- You can pre taper the materials before tying them on the hook. I find it unnecessary as it gets trimmed to shape at the end.

Other effective colors include All White, Gray over White, Olive over White, Cartreuse over White, Chartreuse over Yellow, Red over White, Red over Chartreuse, Chartreuse over Pink and Purple over Red.



STEP 1

(OPTIONAL) Add a few turns of lead onto the shank of the hook.



STEP 2

Tie in the Silky Fiber at the point of the hook. Fold it over the thread and walk it into place. Cut a 45 degree angle. The fibers should reach to the bend of the hook.



STEP 3

Rotate the Silky Fiber around the hook so it sits on the bottom of the shank and equally distributed around the sides.



STEP 4

Tie in a sparse amount of flash on top of the shank. It should extend at least one shank length behind the hook.



STEP 5

Prepare several bunches of EP Fiber. They should be separated into the various color (white, pink and green shown) and kept sparse. I usually prepare enough to tie 5 or 6 flies and use a foam block to separate the clumps.



STEP 6

Tie in the top color. It should be placed on top of the shank and just in front of the red. Tie down the center of the material (half forward and half to the rear). Then fold the top back over the rear material and place a couple of wraps to hold it in place (not too many wraps)



STEP 7

Next, tie in the white (belly) color at a 45 degree downward angle. It should be on the side of the hook - notice the separation between the top and belly colors. Pull the white over the hook and down the opposited side at a 45 degree angle.



STEP 8

The pink lateral line should be VERY SPARSE. Only a dozen or so EP Fibers!



STEP 9

Tie the pink directly on the side of the hook. It will fill the gap between the top and bottom layers when combed together. Tie it in at the mid-point of the fibers with half forward and half rearward.



STEP 10

Pull the forward facing fibers to the rear directly over the top of the fibers filling in the gap. Repeat step 9 and 10 on the opposite side of the fly



STEP 11

Tie in a small clump of flash around the hook shank and immediately in front of all the materials already tied on the hook. Comb it back to the rear of the fly. **THIS COMPLETES STAGE 1**



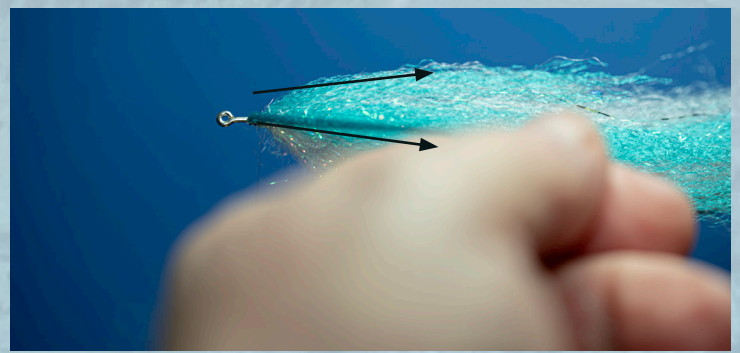
STEP 12

FOR **STAGE 2** Repeat steps 6 - 11. You should end up about halfway up the hookshank and ready for STAGE 3 and 4.



STEP 13

STAGE 3 and 4 are simply repeating the same to series of steps. There is no more flash or lateral line added. First, tie in a shorter and sparser amount of materials. Tie a top color on at the mid-point and off slightly to one side of the fly.



STEP 14

Now fold the other half to the rear and the opposite side of the fly forming a V over the top.



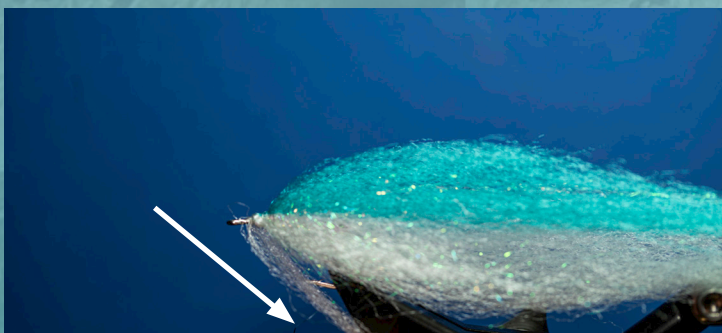
STEP 15

The top color should cover the top and slightly down the side of the fly.



STEP 16

Next, take a small bunch of white and tie it directly on the side of the fly. Again half should be forward and half should be to the rear.



STEP 17

Pull the forward fibers down and under the belly of the fly. This should cover one side and the belly of the fly



STEP 18

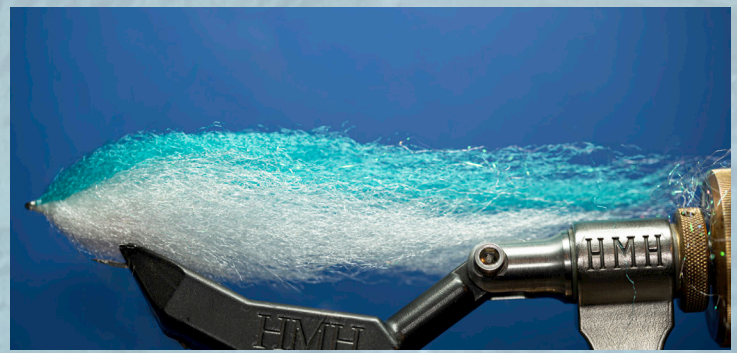
Repeat steps 16 and 17 on the opposite side of the fly.

STAGE 4: REPEAT steps 16-18 for



STEP 19

You should now be at the eye of the hook. If there is extra space, tie in a very small clump of fibers at the mid point of the material. Dark color on top and white on bottom



STEP 20

Fold the top and bottom material back at the same time and tie off the thread in front of the fibers. You can make a couple of wraps over the material to hold it in place. Remove the thread, you are done tying.



STEP 21

Using a comb, gently comb out the fly to get out all tangles. Then, spread the fibers out as shown. Keep the hair straight and evenly spread. This is important to help obtain the correct shape



STEP 22

Using a long bladed scissor, make a cut from the rear of the fly to the head. Angle the cut as shown. I find it helps to hold it up (as shown) when making the cut.



STEP 23

Repeat the cut on the top. Slowly keep trimming the fly to the size and shape you desire. Go slowly as you can always remove more material, but you can not add it back, once trimmed.



STEP 24

Round out the shat to look like you want.

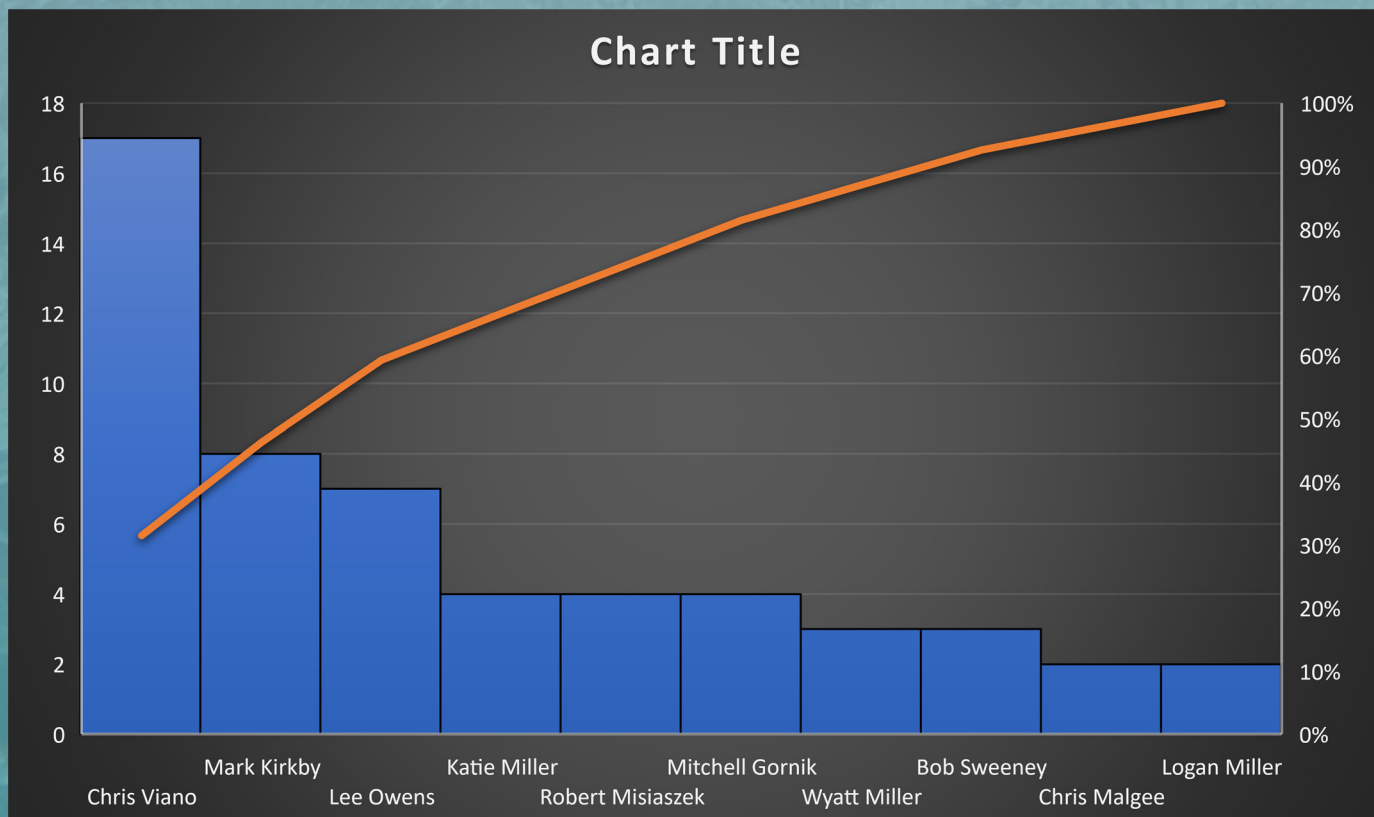


STEP 25

Using goop or superglue, attach the eyes and fine tune the shape as desired

VCFA FISHING TOURNAMENT

JANUARY: BRIM	FEBRUARY: PICKEREL	MARCH: BUCKETMOUTH	APRIL: SHAD
MAY: BLUEFISH	JUNE: LARGEMOUTH	JULY: CLUB VOTE	AUGUST: SPANISH MACK.
SEPTEMBER: REDFISH	OCTOBER: SPECK. TROUT	NOVEMBER: CLUB VOTE	DECEMBER: STRIPER



FRIENDS OF THE VCFA

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLOWING WHO ARE SO GENEROUS IN SUPPORTING THE VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS. THERE GENEROSITY HELPS US TO FUND OUR MEEETINGS, TYING CLASSES AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

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