

Turkey Tail Callibaetis

Sunriver Angler's Fly Tying Corner

By: Phil Fischer



For this month's pattern, I tied a Turkey Tail Callibaetis. This pattern has helped solve the Callibaetis puzzle on several local waters that I fish due to its excellent profile and colors that closely match the natural insect. Using natural turkey tail for the abdomen and thorax, it is darker than many of the Callibaetis patterns I have previously tied. This, matched with the Guinea feather wings results in a superb imitation that trout can't resist. I field tested this pattern at last year's Sunriver Anglers trip to Lake in the Dunes and it proved its worthiness, producing several very nice trout.

I've used a couple unique techniques in tying this pattern. The first are the Wally Wings themselves. This style of wing is a relatively easy technique once practiced a few times. Watch the video at the link below and I think you'll see that the appearance of difficulty in these wings is overshadowed by their simplicity. A

second technique I used is tying the abdomen and thorax using wound turkey tail fibers. The results are like that achieved on a pheasant tail pattern.



Natural Callibaetis

This pattern can be fished during the Callibaetis emergence, which happens during the early afternoon in late spring and early summer on many of our local Central Oregon Lakes. I may use it in tandem with a cripple pattern using similar materials, or with a Callibaetis spinner as the hatch wanes later during the emergence. Try tying this pattern on your own vice and fish it during the Callibaetis hatches this coming spring and summer. I think you'll like it.

Turkey Tail Callibaetis Materials List:

Hook: Firehole Competition Barbless 419, size 14-18

Thread: 14/0 Veevus Brown thread

Tail: Dun Microfibets

Abdomen and Thorax: Natural Turkey Tail Feather

Wing: Whiting Natural Guinea Hackle

Hackle: Whiting Dry Fly Saddle, Unique Variant

Tying instructions and steps are being published in video form and can be found on the Sunriver Anglers Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers/>, or at the following YouTube URL:
<https://youtu.be/eAC2cBVj-k4> .

Learn to tie this fly pattern and fish it during Callibaetis hatches on our local lakes to imitate these mayflies. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Turkey Tail Callibaetis fly pattern, please don't hesitate to email me. Or if you have suggestions on future patterns to feature in this column, I welcome your input. I can be reached at Philfischer@sbcglobal.net.