

# Fly of the Month:

April 2011

## Delia's White Ghost

Hook: Mustad 9671 #10-#14

Tail: Hungarian Partridge

Body: Lite Bright Dubbing

Hackle: Hungarian Partridge

Head: 1/8" gold Bead

Thread: White or Clear

Believe it or not, this rain will end. The seas will calm and the rivers will clear. So as we stock up our fly boxes, (that *is* what you are doing right?) be sure you have a few Delia's White Ghosts in your sea-run cutthroat box.

Delia's White Ghost was invented by Jeffery Delia and his brother Russell Delia. Jeff is an east coast native and now lives on the North Hood Canal where he pursues sea-run cutthroat, salmon and his passion for photography. His flies, the White Ghost and Conehead Squid have created quite a buzz among avid fishermen, that I would consider experts in the salt. Doug rose regularly writes about Delia's flies and considers them a staple in his saltwater fly box.

Now, I know what you're thinking, "Hey, if it's called the White Ghost, why is it yellow?" Well, while the original color is actually pearl white, Jeff ties this pattern in many different colors. His favorites are: pear white, yellow, pink, polar orange, red and black for steelhead.

This fly is a rather simple pattern. I use all of the standard tying methods to tie in the tail, body and hackle. On my first attempt of this fly I used the whole hackle and felt it was too bushy. On my second fly I stripped the left half of the barbs off of the stem before I tied it in (like you would on a Spey fly). This made for a sparser hackle and a "tidier" fly.

Since this isn't a particularly challenging fly, take the time to concentrate on making it perfect. Pay attention to proportions, how the tail and hackle lay down, and how you dub the body. Use magnification, if you have it. It may seem tedious to focus on every single wrap but it really makes a difference on the outcome of your fly.

Speaking of poorly tied flies, you will often hear people say "the fish don't care". But that's not who we are really tying for. If that were the case only 3 or 4 patterns would exist. When I'm on the water and choosing a fly to tie on, I always choose the best tied fly of whatever pattern I want to use. I guess my thinking is "put your best foot forward". You want to fish with a fly that's gives you the most confidence when you are fishing.

Tie some of these flies, make them look good, and fish them with confidence. You can also order the White Ghost and the Conehead Shrimp from Jeff Delia. You can contact him at 360-765-3795 or email him at [deliajefferey@yahoo.com](mailto:deliajefferey@yahoo.com).



Tied & photo by Ryan Haseman