



A long time friend and client joined me on a trip to Leadville, Colorado to fish the Arkansas below Turquoise Lake. It was lead by a great guide: Tom Caprio. A beautiful summer day that lead us to lots of great fishing. It's always a pleasure when I have the opportunity to not only fish, but to spend good quality time with three generations of fishermen.

The stream produced good consistent activity over the course of the day, but was particularly good when we tied on the dries, mid afternoon after the water had warmed up. Specifically, I found that the Pale Morning Dun (PMD) was the most effective around noon. The PMD was rather small in size, maybe a size 18. Fortunately, Tom tied another larger dry fly on as a really good indicator. Thanks, Tom, that made a big difference. As you can see, one of my fish was certainly shorter than my index finger. Again, I think this was a team effort to bring in this fish.

Finally the heavy runoff appears to have taken it's course throughout the state, and for guys like me, that should improve my odds of fishing.

Tight Lines,
Greg Wambolt



JOKES

Here you'll find some fishing jokes, but be sure not to tell them while *ice fishing* because they will crack you up!

Q: What did the fish say when it hit a concrete wall?

A: Dam!

Q: How do you communicate with a fish?

A: Drop it a line!

Q: Why did the vegan go deep-sea fishing?

A: Just for the halibut!

Q: What is the richest fish in the world?

A: A goldfish!

Q: What's a trout's main job?

A: To keep his daughter off the pole

Q: What's the King of Russia's favorite fish?

A: Tsardines

Q: What swims in the sea, carries a machine gun, and makes you an offer you can't refuse?

A: The Codfather

Q: What do you call a fish with no eye?

A: A FSH

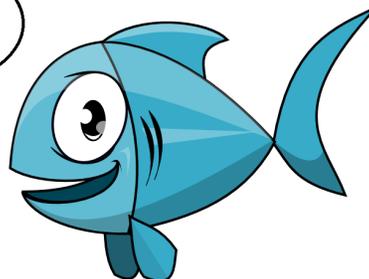
Q: Why don't fish like to play basketball?

A: because they're afraid of the net

Q: What do you call a fish that won't stop talking?

A: A Big-Mouth Bass

Don't mind me...
Just fishing for compliments.



JULY 2016 FLY OF THE MONTH

July Fly



BTS MYSIS

Size: 18

Family Matched: Freshwater Shrimp

Life Cycle: Adult

Fly Type: True Fly Pattern

A resident of a number of lakes and reservoirs across the Rockies and Western US, Mysis Shrimp are a key forage species supporting some of the most productive lake and tailwater trout fisheries. These opaque, semi-translucent, protein-rich shrimp are an elusive prey in the reservoirs in which they grow. However, it is in the tailwaters below the reservoirs that their importance really comes to light. Flushed into the tailwaters as water is released from the dam, the mysis shrimp helplessly drift downstream into the waiting jaws of hungry trout. An abbreviation for "Better than Sex", the BTS Mysis lives up to its reputation as one of the most deadly shrimp patterns on the water!


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TAKE A MOMENT TO PAUSE

Written by - Peter Stitcher
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Exhale.... You've done it. You've successfully escaped the office. You've tunneled under the suburb's privacy fences, and the incessant drone cell phones and email notifications are fading into the distance behind you. In front of you lies a day without obligation and a river full of potential with the promise of hungry trout. Before you run down the trail and lose yourself on the water, slow down and **PAUSE** for a moment. Mother Nature has something to tell you, and listening will prove the difference between a day spent staring at the water or one punctuated with tight lines and wet hands as you release fish back into the river.

This message is a story about which bugs are hatching, what the trout are eating, and which fly patterns will give you the greatest chance of success on this water, on this day. The lines of this tale surround the river; it is recorded among the willows, whispered on the wind, and chiseled along the bed of the river. Guided by the acronym **PAUSE**, the fly fisher can interpret nature's cues, tie on the perfect combination of flies, and be ready for an epic day on the water.

Parking lot to the River - Matching the hatch starts when you park the truck and continue on your way to the water's edge. While not the most appetizing script to read, plastered to your windshield and the grill of your car is a record of the bugs that were flying and hopping along the lake or river that you are planning to fish. The fragile wings of mayflies and sturdy grasshopper legs act like brail to the astute angler and are the first clues as to what flies they might fish that day. As you leave the parking lot and work your way down to the water, observe what is hopping and flying around you. Grasshoppers frantically leaping off the trail ahead of you, the wayward beetle landing on your shoulder, and the shrilling of the cicada, and caddis flies stirring into flight as you push through streamside trees are all indicators of food that might be falling or landing on the water.



Photo provided by Troutfin Studio at www.markjessop.com

Above the Water - Swallows flying and swooping over the water are going to be your first indicator that bugs are hatching from the water and dry flies might be on the menu! As you reach the water's edge, watch for swarms of invertebrates over the water and streamside vegetation. Even at a distance, the chaotic flight of the caddis, the purposeful straightforward flight of the stonefly, and the orderly wave-like motion of the mayfly will be evident, and will help to direct you to the most likely dry flies in your fly box.

Under the Water - It is beneath the surface of the water that trout do 75% of their feeding, and that's where the angler's most important information will be found. Using an Invertebrate Seine along the streambed and pulling rocks from the current to observe what is holding onto their surface will give you a detailed menu of which bugs are most abundant, as well as their size and color so that you can lay your fly box alongside and choose the closest match.

Spider Webs - Spiders are Mother Nature's PhD level Entomologists and are the most efficient samplers of insects along the river. If it has been hatching or hopping along the water where you are fishing, the spiders will have caught them. Look for spider webs in the bushes and snags along the river and hold your fly box up to their latest catch to match the hatch.

Eddies - Like the Bermuda Triangle of Trout, swirling currents and backwaters along the edge of the river provide a catalog of the most active bugs in and on the water. Spinning on top of the rotating current will be a sample of spent invertebrate cases, crippled insects, and expired post-spawn adults. Beneath the surface of the water, the same currents that trapped the adults in their dizzying spin also act to deliver aquatic insects to these collection points where they can be easily observed and matched by the angler.

Success never comes easily for the fly fisherman. There is no such thing as a lucky fly that will produce every trip to the river, and there are no infallible guides equipped with crystal balls through which to foresee the next hatch. However, for the fly fisher who takes a moment to **PAUSE** and observe, the rewards will be immediate, the fish will be more frequent, and the experience on the water will be that much richer!