

Black Ghost Clouser

by Gerry Crow

Hook: *Long streamer hook - size 6 6x-long - Long hook for big fish*

Eyes: *Clouser-style dumbbells*

Thread: *Black*

Tail and throat: *Yellow bucktail or golden pheasant crest*

Body: *Black floss*

Rib: *Gold tinsel*

Underwing: *Sparse white bucktail*

Overwing: *White arctic fox fur or white maribou*



Attach dumbbell eyes about ¼ inch behind eye of hook, leaving enough room to attach the wing and finish the head. Wrap the thread to the bend of the hook and tie in the tail, the tinsel and the black floss, then wrap the thread back up to the eye of the hook. Using the black floss, wrap the body and tie off the floss at the dumbbell eyes. Then spiral wrap the tinsel up to the dumbbell eyes and tie-off. Tie in the throat of the fly directly behind the dumbbell eyes. Remember that the dumbbell eyes will make the hook ride point-up, so you need to rotate the hook, so the point is up when you tie in the wing. Tie in the white bucktail (sparsely) just in front of the dumbbell eyes and then tie in the white arctic fox (sparsely) as an overwing. The white bucktail gives some body to the wing, which is effective in a swift current. The arctic fox fur or maribou undulates in slower current or in still waters. The combination of the two makes this fly effective in multiple situations. It is effective in both the spring and fall for landlocked salmon.

Variations of this pattern include:

Instead of the arctic fox or white maribou overwing, tie in green bucktail or a few peacock swords and instead of the black floss, make a silver or gold tinsel body. The result will be a Nine/Three Clouser. Or use red bucktail underwing and yellow overwing to make a Mickey Finn Clouser. I also fish this with a small (size 16 or 18) grouse-and-flash or Ice nymph dropper off the bend of the hook, fished dead drift to get deep, then slow-stripped.