

# Fly Pattern Sheet - Tubular Smolt

compliments of 2GuysFlyFishing.net



## Materials

Thread: 70 Denier: Danville 6/0, White

Tube: 3/32" OD, Rigid (approx 2" long)

Tail: Chick-a-Bou, natural or dyed; frayed tubing from body; and Angel hair from back

Under Body: Welsh/Allyn Thermometer Probe Cover, #05031; cut to length (approx 1-1/2")

Stuffing/Guts: (Optional) Glo-bug yarn, Glow-in-the-Dark fibers

Head: Cone for tube flies, or Foam (A cone makes the fly suspend head down, a foam head allows the fly to float high.)

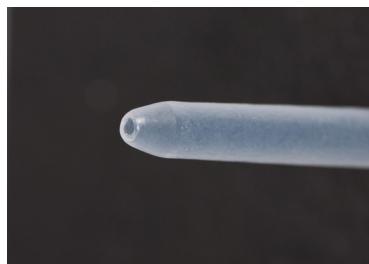
Over body: Mylar Tubing (Spirit River\*), pearl, large (cut to 2-1/2")

Back: Angel Hair; Baitfish, or Peacock; extending out into the tail

Eyes: 2mm Mylar

Coating: Epoxy or UV Coating & Nail polish

Notes: The Welsh/Allyn Thermometer Probe Cover is used over digital thermometers in doctor's offices and hospitals. They are not available retail so ask your doctor's office if they will sell you a box. The covers come in boxes of 25. They are available online, but only in larger quantities. We have a bunch on hand; if you'd like a couple for a trial tie before committing to a larger quantity contact us thru 2GuysFlyFishing.net



This fly is much faster to tie if you spend a few minutes pre-cutting your materials.

A single edge razor is the best method for cutting the tying tube and the probe cover. I use sharp office shears for the mylar tubing due to the core. Cut the very tip of the probe off with a razor. Trim as little as possible off the probe tip to keep the hole small.



- 1) Once your tube is on the mandrel, put the tube into the adapter just to the (left) end of the circular clamp. This will give you about 1/4" of tube necessary for the junction tube that can be used when fishing. Attach your thread as close to the adapter as possible.



- 2) Tie in three or four Chick-a-bou feathers around the tube. Trim the stems short and bind down the butts. At this point whip finish and cut your thread. (You can leave the bobbin and use a second bobbin at the front in Step 5.)



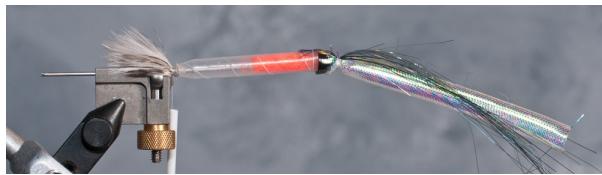
- 3) Slide the probe up over the front of the tube; just up on the tail wraps. Do not cover all the wraps with the tube.



- 4) You have the option of stuffing materials into the probe cover, around the inner tube. Shown is a two tone mixture of Glo-bug yarn. I've also used "glow in the dark" materials.



- 5) Remove the tube from the mandrel and slide on the cone. If you're using foam you'll need to run a thick bobbin (or finishing nail) through the center to allow the tube through. Reinsert the mandrel and attach your thread in front of the cone. Wrap enough thread to lock the cone in place.



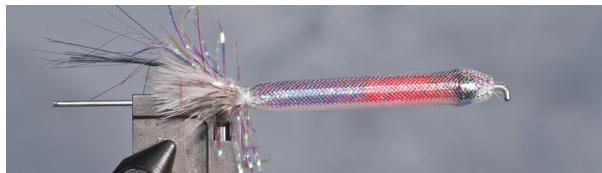
- 6) Tie in the tubing facing forward, as close to the cone head as possible. Tie in a small bundle of Angel Hair on top of the tubing. Put a couple of half hitches at the head; spiral wrap the thread rearward, just off the rear of the probe cover, onto the tail wraps.



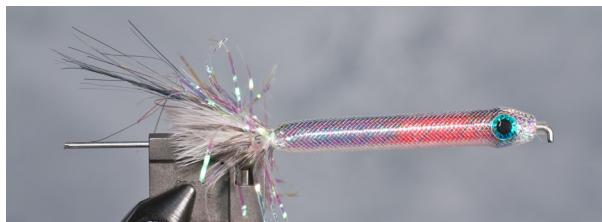
- 7) Bring the Angel Hair rearward over the top and tie down.



- 8) Force the braid tubing inside out over the cone and body. (This can be a tight fit over the cone, so make sure to hold and support the rear of the probe cover with your off hand.)



- 9) When you reach the rear of the probe cover, fray the tubing and work your thread through the strands. Wrap the tubing tightly on top of the tail wraps. Half-hitch, whip finish, and cut your thread. (I usually trim the frayed tubing to length after I am done tying.)



- 10) Apply the mylar eyes on either side, just at the back edge of the cone. (Molded eyes add a unique look, although they are difficult to apply to the round cone/probe cover.)



- 11) Coat the entire body with a UV coating and cure. Make sure to seal the entire body as you want to protect the inside of the probe cover from water. (If you use epoxy, this is the last step.) Since the UV coating cures tacky, I apply a coat of either clear or sparkle nail polish as a final finish. Remove the fly, trim the excess tube with a razor, and flame the front to round the tube.

## Tying Notes:

I've found that not all mylar tubing is created equal; the tubing from Spirit River has a tight weave which helps the tubing stay woven when you're working with it. Leave the core in until you're ready to tie in on.

Step 10 & 11 are where there's some options: If you're using epoxy to coat the fly, apply nail polish to seal the body first. Once that's dry, apply the eyes, then the epoxy. If I'm using one of the UV products, I'll apply the eyes first. Most of the UV products dry with a tacky feel and can be "cleaned" with alcohol (household - not beverage!) to remove the tack. A common suggestion is to coat the UV coating with a gloss cement (polish) after the UV cures. For polish I use clear top coat. However, I also like the polishes with sparkle flakes. I'll sometimes use a stripe of blue, green, or purple sparkle polish to darken the top of the fly.

This pattern is very customizable. As the mylar tubing is semi-translucent, materials used under will show. Different color cones, body stuffings, back materials, and polish will alter the final look of your fly.

Putting a small bead (egg or reflective) on your leader at the tail or the head when fishing adds a little bling to the thing.