

Subject: : Hatch and Entomology Forum

Topic: : Small Big Spring Sculpin

Re: Small Big Spring Sculpin

Author: : midnightangler

Date: : 2012/1/22 11:04:57

URL:

Quote:

Cannot explain for all the world my I catch more fish on Ed Shenk's black sculpin than on a the five or so mottled representations I've tried.

Think about it this way: a fish has to see a sculpin before it can eat it. Sculpins are mottled because it provides camouflage and makes them less visible to predators. Fish can see black from a long distance away. A live black sculpin would probably have a very short life expectancy in a trout stream. How could it hide?

In streamer fishing matching the natural is secondary to having a fly that is visible to the fish. It doesn't matter how accurately you match a typical food source if fish don't see your imitation. Black and white will usually outfish more realistic imitations simply because fish can see them from a greater distance in typical conditions. Of course, sometimes trout will chase a black streamer only until they get close enough to see that it isn't food - that's when you switch to something more realistic.