

Bruce Evensen & Bill Scarola tie Bruce's brush crab fly



Bruce

The brush crab fly is our choice fly of the month for fishing mangrove shorelines because this is habitat for all those little tree crabs. And those mangrove tree crabs are breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the big three inshore gamefish – seatrout, redfish, snook.

The brush crab fly is productive away from the shoreline, too, because all gamefish are opportunistic feeders. You can crawl it across the bottom, jig it up and down, or retrieve it slowly just under the surface.



Bill

Materials

- Hook: 3407 size 4 or 2
- Eyes: Crab shrimp eyes, in orange or red epoxy.
- Legs: Brown/black rubber silly legs
- Head: Brown bucktail
- Body: E P crab body brush
- NOTE: See picture. The body material is multi-colored or tan-colored. Use magic markers to adjust the colors as necessary.
- Weight: Medium barbell eyes. Or, alternately, wrap the hook with lead wire.
- Thread: Brown, flat waxed.

Tying sequence

- 1: Wrap hook, from eye to bend.
- 2: Add brown bucktail over eyes so it goes past the bend about 1 inch.
- 3: Add shrimp eyes, about half way on shaft, so eyes jut out past the bend about half an inch, as shown.
- 4: Add Sili Legs, two each side. Keep them longer than the shrimp eyes.
- 5: Attach a medium barbell eyes just behind the hook eye. or wrap several lead wraps on the shank just behind the hook eye.
- 6: Add the brush material behind the hook to the bend and whip finish the material. Add a drop of glue on the thread.
- 7: Trim with scissors to flatten the top and bottom of brush material and to form it into a crab shaped body.



Bruce's Brush Crab