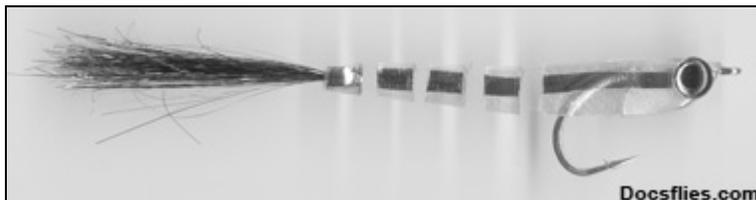


# Dougherty's Siliside Minnow

By: Brian Dougherty



## **Materials:**

**Hook:** 3/0 Wide gap Gamakatsu SC15 or similar

**Threads:** 3/0 White Uni-thread and 12 lb fluorocarbon or mono

**Eyes:** 5.0 Pearl White Spirit River 3-D Molded Eyes or similar

**Body:** Mother of Pearl (MOP) Sili-Skin Thick

**Belly:** Belly White Sili-Skin

**Lateral Line:** Prismatic Silver Sili-Skin or Painters Metallic Silver fine marker

**Tail:** Angel Hair or similar flashy material

**Marker:** Optional, Prismacolor in any color

**Glitter:** Optional, in any color

## **STEP 1:**

Cut pieces. This step becomes easier as you make more minnows and finalize your template for the body, belly and articulated tail sections. Once shapes are finalized, use the white paper backing of the Sili-Skin as templates for your next minnow. Sizes are approximately 1¼" for the body, ¼" for each articulated section and ad-lib for the belly and lateral line. Hint: Use light oil on the blades of your scissors to prevent the Sili-Skin from sticking when cutting.



## **STEP 2:**

Make the tail. Use approximately 10" of mono. Fold in half. Take less than half a pencil's thickness of the longest Angel Hair fibers and fold in half around the mono, so as to interlock the mono and Angel Hair together. Compress the Angel Hair near the mono junction, wrap and whip-finish. Trim Angel Hair if desired. If using markers on the body, color match the tail by using appropriately colored Angel Hair or coloring pearl Angel Hair with a marker.



### STEP 3:

Attach the tail. Tie-in one end of the mono behind the eye. Over-wrap this mono towards and around a portion of the bend of the hook. Advance the thread back to just before the bend. Holding the Angel Hair tail and the loose end of mono, adjust the length of the tail (~ 2") and wrap over the loose end of mono a couple of turns. Make final length adjustments to the tail then advance the thread over-wrapping the mono towards the eye, whip-finish and cut-off thread and mono ends. Add Zap-A-Gap to the thread wraps on the tail. Let dry. Depending on the desired action of the tail, lighter or heavier monofilament, Spectra or Scud Back may be substituted. For eels and lances, use a longer section of mono.



### STEP 4:

Build the body. Remove the white backing exposing the sticky-side of the thick MOP Sili-Skin. If coloring is desired, use a marker to draw a solid line down the middle of the sticky-side of the Sili-Skin. The same will need to be done for each articulated section. Once coloring is complete, lightly pull the tail while laying the body section over the top mono strand and around the hook and covering the bottom mono strand. Repeat for each articulated tail section. For spacing, begin with the tail section; next add the middle section, then one to each side. If done correctly, each articulated section will be spaced evenly with one mono strand at the top and bottom of each section.



### STEP 5:

Trim excess. Trim the excess Sili-Skin by shaping the articulated tail sections to the desired shape. Using a straight scissor and cutting from the tail towards the body easily accomplishes this.



**STEP 6:**

Add extras. Add a small section of Belly White Sili-Skin, a silver lateral line and eyes to each side. If desired, a small amount of Zap-A-Gap may be added to each articulated/mono junction to increase durability. Go fish! Hint: If using Sili-Skin for the lateral line, it's easier to use one continuous strip and finish by cutting between joints then to cut individual lengths for each section.

