

# Chironomids from Top to Bottom

by Ernie Gulley

Every wonder why other anglers around you are consistently catching fish? Let me help you and share my philosophy and tactics that will allow you to become a better and more consistent angler. I have been aggressively fishing and guiding one of the toughest and technical stillwaters we have in the West and want to share this knowledge with you. I will show you my leader setups, types of fly rods and reels, fly lines, fly patterns and the chironomid life cycle. I will explain my methods and make sure you will always know how and when to put your fly patterns at the proper depth. Depth, color and size of your flies in that order are the most important aspect of learning how to fish chironomids successfully. Let me share with you my secrets of success from thousands of hours on the water and help build your confidence so you can have great success on the water using my chironomid fly fishing tactics.



Ernie Gulley is a local fishing legend – an expert on Lake Crowley in the Sierra and Nevada’s Lake Pyramid. He is a seasoned presenter, an accomplished fly tier and an all round Club circuit favorite. We are delighted to welcome him back to the circuit.

Ernie was born in southern California and started fishing with his father as soon as he could walk. At age seven, Ernie and his family moved to New Orleans where he learned how to fish Lake Pontchartrain for speckled trout and other saltwater species. Later he moved back to SoCal and began fishing Lake Crowley, Bridgeport Reservoir and many lakes in Utah, Idaho and Nevada. (Ernie currently resides in Riverside with his wife Shannon and their two children, Logan, age 17 and Aidan, age 13.)

In 1997 Ernie's curiosity about fly fishing began and a true love affair was born. This love affair blossomed, and he never looked back. Ernie was mentored by Bob Slamal, one of Ernie's legends in the fly fishing industry, and he also joined many local fly fishing clubs to learn as much as he could about fly fishing. In 2007, Ernie won the "Double Hall in the Fall" tournament at Lake Crowley, now his home waters for guiding; this is where he won both individual and team division titles.

Ernie is currently a professional fly fishing guide in Southern California and the eastern Sierra with 23 years of fly fishing and is known as one of the Sierra's premier Stillwater guides. Even when he is finished guiding for the day, you will find him back out on the water until sunset, always exploring, testing, observing, analyzing, and putting in the extra time and effort to master his craft. His philosophy is simple: you can always learn something new every time you are on the water.



Ernie is a "Pro Ambassador" for the Hardy Fly Fishing Company and the Cortland Line Company, among others. He takes great pride in sharing his knowledge of fly fishing and his greatest passion is teaching Stillwater fly fishing tactics.

You can learn more about Ernie and his guiding by going to:

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Instagram: @gulleyernie

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