

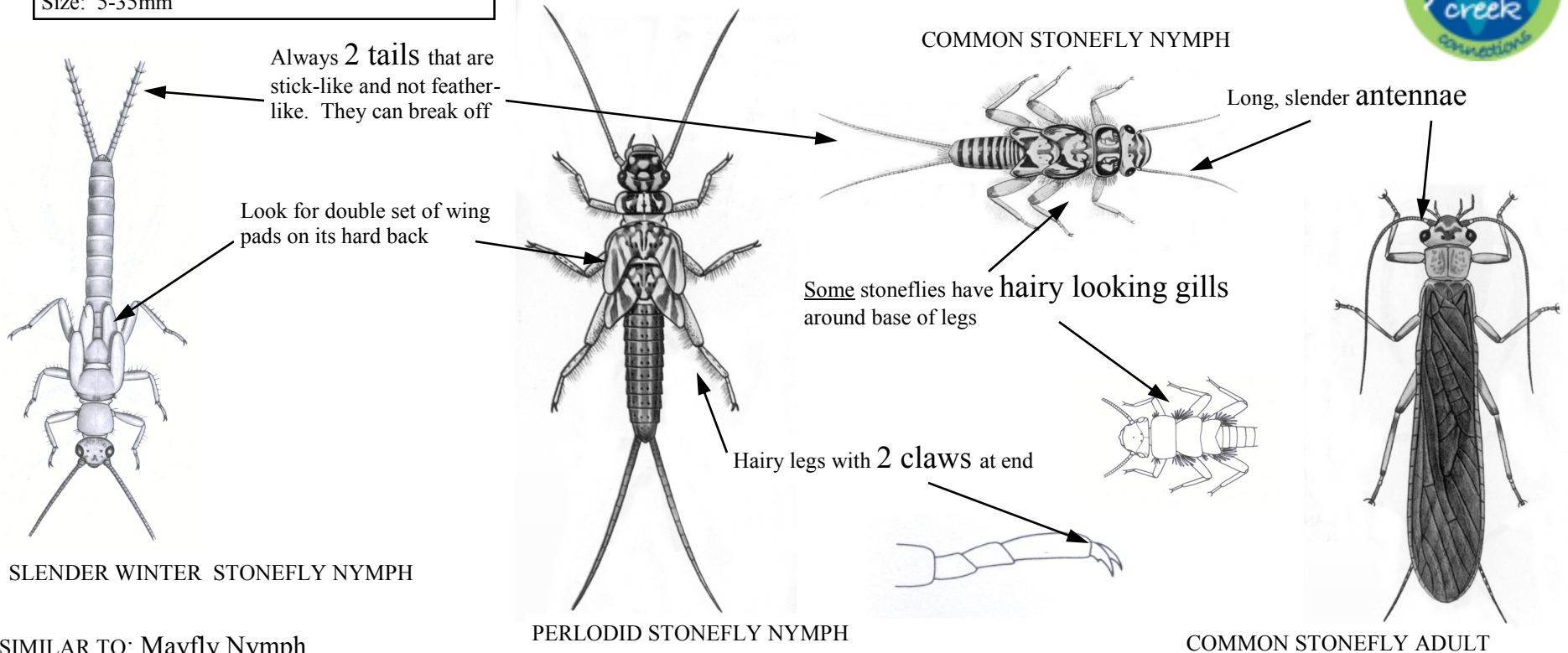
Stonefly Nymph

Order: Plecoptera Families: Perlidae– Common
 Perlodidae– Perlodid
 Leuctridae– Rolledwinged

Number of species in North America: 500



Size: 5-35mm



SLENDER WINTER STONEFLY NYMPH

PERLODID STONEFLY NYMPH

COMMON STONEFLY ADULT

SIMILAR TO: Mayfly Nymph

- Stoneflies have 2 tails, while mayflies have 3.
- Stoneflies have 2 claws, while mayflies have 1.
- Stoneflies do not have abdominal gills, while mayflies do.
- Stoneflies have long antenna, while mayflies have short antenna.
- Stoneflies have a double set of wings, while mayflies have one set.

Credits: McCafferty, W. Patrick.
 Aquatic Entomology, 1981.

Diet: Small aquatic plants (periphyton) and animals; organic debris; fungi and bacteria from decomposing leaves.

Food for: Fish (especially trout), predaceous water insects, crayfish.

Habitat: Bottom dweller, on/under rocks, flowing waters (streams and rivers), rarely ponds or lakes.

Movement: Crawling on the bottom, some drift.

Breathing: Gills, which are sometimes visible around base of legs; will do "push-ups" to elevate oxygen flow over body.

Water Quality Indicator: Group I– generally sensitive to pollution; a large number indicates GOOD water quality.

Life Cycle Corner

Incomplete metamorphosis

