

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## BUNNY WINGED SALMON LEECH

*contributed by*  
**Sandy McKinlay**

Ed likes his flies sparse .... a dozen polar bear hairs is just about right. And .... there's no denying that Ed catches a lot of fish. Trouble is, I've never had the courage to tie the "Nothin' to It" to the end of my line. I like to think there's something on the end of my hook that the fish can see.

Well, the Winged Bunny Salmon Leech does just that .... a big silhouette, lots of movement in the water thanks to the rabbit fur, lots of flash with the UV Polar Chenille. Salmon are goin' love it!! And .... if they don't, the fishermen will.

This fly originated in Alaska targeting salmon, coho in particular, during their freshwater migration. As the photo to the right indicates, it can be tied in a variety of colours. Solid purple and "pink & purple" are the colours that worked best for coho in Alaska. Other colour variations proved effective on Chinook and Chum salmon.

The fly can be tied in weighted and un-weighted versions to match the water conditions. The un-weighted version would be tied with no eyes. Extra weight can be added by substituting dumbbell eyes for the bead chain, or wrapping the hook shank with lead wire.

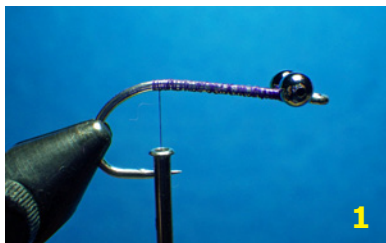


### MATERIALS



- Hook:** Mustad 34007 or Mustad C70SD  
Size: #2 - #6
- Thread:** Purple (Colour to match hackle)
- Eyes:** Silver Bead Chain - Medium (*Use dumbbell eyes if for added weight*)
- Tail:** Rabbit Zonker Strip - Pink
- Body:** Large Polar Chenille - Pink
- Wing:** Rabbit Zonker - Pink
- Collar:** Purple Schlappen or Webby Saddle Hackle

### TYING INSTRUCTIONS



- Pinch barb of the hook.
- Lay down a thread base.
- Tie in Bead Chain Eyes with figure 8 loops.
- Add a drop of super glue to wraps to secure eyes.
- Cut a piece of rabbit zonker strip - one and a half times the length of the hook.
- Trim the end to a point (personal preference, not necessary).



**TYING INSTRUCTIONS** *(continued)*



- Wet the rabbit strip at the tie in point, about half an inch from the end.
- Separate the hairs with a bodkin.
- Tie in the rabbit strip at the bend of the hook with several tight wraps of thread.



- DO NOT clip the excess rabbit strip.
- Fold back and move the thread in front of the fold.
- Tie in the polar chenille.
- Wrap the polar chenille forward to the bead chain eyes.
- Tie off and clip the excess.



- Split the chenille fibres in half on top and stroke the chenille fibers down and back.
- Pull the rabbit strip forward and tie down behind the eyes.
- Tie off and clip the excess.



*The Finished Fly*

*Bunny Winged Salmon Leech*

- Tie in the webby saddle hackle or schlappen.
- Wind three or four tight turns of the hackle behind the eyes, stoking the fibres back with each turn.
- Tie off and clip the excess.
- Whipfinish and add a drop of head cement.

