

## The Osprey Fly Box “Scarlet Fever”

This month’s pattern is one submitted by one of our younger, newer members **Darren Smith**. Darren recently found himself between jobs so when he wasn’t out pounding the pavement he could be found out in the valley on the Fraser or any of its tributaries or sloughs. This year by all accounts saw a banner return of coho and Darren’s had great success with the fly shown here.

“When I made the transition from gear fishing to flyfishing I needed a fly that I could fish with confidence. Being a fan of spinners in my gear days, I wanted something with lots of flash much like the spinners I used to fish with. Blade movement was the key; the spinner would give off intermittent pulses of light that fish could rarely turn down.

The use of a bead gives the fly a jiggling action. Along with the seductive pulsing action of the Flashabou and Angel Hair, this gave the fly the characteristics I was looking for. This is a simple fly to tie yet it has been extremely effective for coho and cutthroat.”

It’s effectiveness on cutties is demonstrated in the picture of Darren holding a fine 22 inch specimen he caught the day of the November fish out. Darren has the most luck with a steady 10-inch retrieve and also on the swing in faster moving water. If the water is a little coloured he’ll substitute gold materials for the wing.

“In the upper reaches of rivers I prefer to run a type IV 10’ sink tip. Flows are rarely uniform, so a sink tip offers that crucial line control. The sink tip, with proper line manipulation, along with the bead will get your fly down to those bottom hugging fish in the deeper slots and guts of pools and runs. When fishing more uniformed flows like sloughs, I’ll run the S.A. Stillwater and on occasion a full floating line, depending on depth and water flow.”

Hook: Mustad 80400BLN streamer hook. 6-12  
Thread: UNI –Mono 4m Fine/Clear  
Head: Medium ‘Killer Caddis scarlet red bead  
Wing: Silver Angel Hair, Pearlescent and silver flashabou

To tie this simple, effective fly, tie in the wing materials at the eye of the hook.

Position the bead right behind where you tied in the wing.

Bring the wing materials over the bead, tie down, and whip finish behind the bead.

That’s it!

