OSPREY FLY BOX

Rainbow Warrior

contributed by

Dianne Wenham

I have been going up to Fawn Lake for the past several years and have had reasonable success fishing a Hare's Ear Nymph pattern on a Type 2 or 3 sinking line. While searching online for alternate variations to the Hare's Ear pattern, I came across the USA competitive fly fisherman Lance Egan's Rainbow Warrior pattern on the Orvis Fly Fishing website. I liked the idea of blending the traditional hare's ear dubbing with a bit of flashabou. Who knows, it might work, so why not give it a try.

As they say, "Looks can be deceiving". I fished this fly out at the recent June Fawn Lake Fishout . It proved to be a dud…not even a tap. I haven't given up on it yet and am thinking of dressing it down a bit by using a less 'flashy' flashabou. The other thought I have is that it is probably better suited to river fishing. I plan on giving it a try next time I am on the river.



Lance Egan

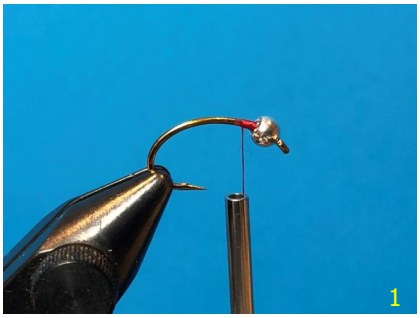
Materials



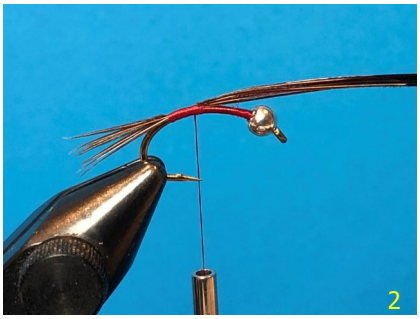
List of Materials:

Hook -	Standard emerger hook, sizes 12-22
Bead -	Silver Tungsten, 3/32" sized to hook
Thread -	Red, 70 denier or 8/0
Tail -	Pheasant tail fibers
Abdomen -	Pearl Flashabou or Mylar, wide
Thorax -	Tan/rainbow Sow Scud or Hairs Ear Dubbing
Wingcase -	Pearl Flashabou or Mylar, wide
Hot spot -	Red thread whip finish

Tying Instructions

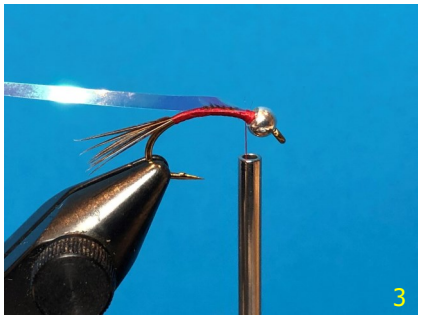


1. De-barb hook, place bead onto hook. Start your Red thread on the hook shank immediately behind the bead. If the bead moves around on the shank add a couple of wraps of lead free wire and tuck into the bead. Continue taking wraps down to about the hook point.
2. Select half a dozen natural coloured pheasant tail fibers - keeping the tips aligned, strip or snip a half dozen or so fibers free from the stem. Measure the fibers to form a tail about a hook gap in length. With a pinch wrap, secure the fibers to the top of the hook shank and take wraps rearward well down into the bend. Then, wrap your tying thread forward up to the bead and break or cut the excess pheasant tail off close.

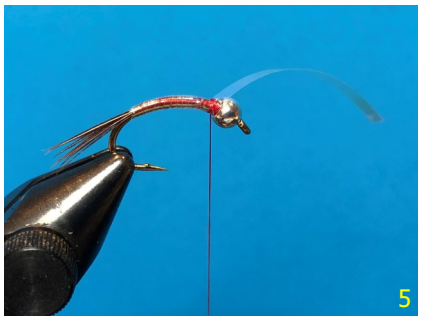


Tying Instructions

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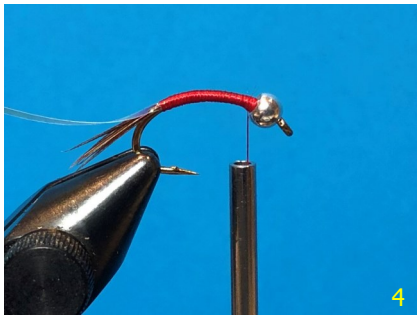


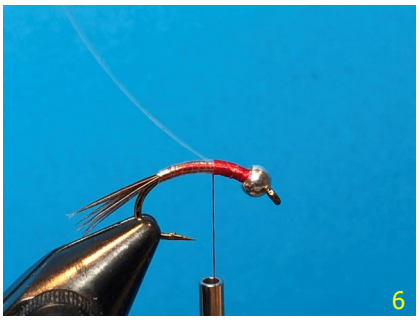
3. Snip a single strand of wide pearl flashabou free from the hank and then snip a 3 or 4 inch piece from the strand for easier handling. Tie in the mylar just behind the bead and take adjacent wraps all the way back to the base of the tail.
4. Wrap the thread forward in touching turns to form a completely red underbody.
5. Make overlapping spiral wraps with the flashabou up the hook shank to behind the bead and secure it with a few tight wraps of tying thread.
6. Pull the mylar back and take wraps of thread rearward to the hook point, this will result in an appropriately gap long wing case.
7. I used hairs ear dubbing instead of the recipe's Wapsi's Sow-Scud dubbing in tan rainbow. Create a thin, short dubbing noodle on your thread.
8. Take wraps up to the bead to form a bulbous little thorax that's about equal in size to the bead. (**Note**: I extended the dubbing to make a longer thorax, more akin to a Hare's Ear pattern).
9. Pull the mylar forward, over the dubbing, to form a shiny iridescent wing case and secure it behind the bead with 2 or 3 wraps of tying thread. You can then fold the mylar back and take a few more wraps of thread to really lock it in place. Snip the mylar off close but don't worry if you leave a little tag, it will blend right in with the wing case.
10. This fly benefits from a built up thread collar, like a hot spot. Two separate 4 or 5 turn whip finishes is usually enough to build up the collar and secure the thread. With the whip finishes complete, snip or cut your tying thread free. Finish off with a drop of head cement to the thread wraps for durability.















Tight Lines & Good Luck!