



SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

SANTIAMFLYCASTERS.COM

April 2021

April Meeting (presented online, NOT in person)

The Metolius River with Jeff Perin



This month we welcome back Jeff Perin, the owner of the Fly Fisher's Place in Sisters, Oregon, who will be giving a presentation on how he approaches the fabled waters of the Metolius River in Central Oregon. The Metolius is known throughout the region as one of the most technical spring creeks in the United States. Diverse hatches coupled with tricky currents make the Metolius a little more difficult to fish than many other

ivers but Jeff promises to share his tips and tricks for success on the Metolius anytime of year. From big predator Bull's to resident Rainbows and Mountain Whitefish the Metolius offers something for nearly every angler. I have only fished it once and had a little luck. Other club members I know refuse to fish it because they have had no luck at all so hopefully tonight's show will boost our knowledge and our catch rates at this gem that's just over the hill.



Crooked River Whitefish — See outing report on page 5

Board Meeting

April 5

Via Zoom

General Meeting

April 8

"Zoom Meeting"

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WELCOME NEW MEMBER IN MARCH

Chuck Morrison, Amity

Santiam Flycasters
BOARD AND OFFICERS

Scott Vaslev - President

VACANT - Vice President/
 Programs

Dennis Burnett - Secretary

Tim Johnson - Treasurer/
 Membership

Board Members

Will and Reenie Satak -
 Concessions

Matt Neznanski - Webmaster

Leroy Shepherd - Newsletter
 Editor

Bob LeClerc - FFI
 Representative

George Hingston

Beth Jappay

Ken Karnosh

Ricky Love

Don Meyer

Kent Toomb

Donnie Weninger

Board Members Wanted

The Santiam Flycasters want you! We are looking for a few good men and women. If you are interested in helping decide who our presenters are and where we go for our outings, please join us. Or, if you just want to find out what goes on during the board meetings or want to share your opinion; please join us. No experience needed, just your interest in fly fishing is all it takes to be a board member.

President's Corner

By Scott Vaslev

Writing this after just getting back from our club's outing on the Crooked River. Ricky was the club sponsor and will have an article of his own but thought I'd add my own two cents worth.

The weather was beautiful if you like it cold and clear. The first night there the temperature got down to 24 degrees. I brought my wading boots in my tent trailer to keep them from freezing but didn't help, they froze anyway. I love my tent trailer but don't use it much for winter camping for obvious reasons.

I caught a few rainbows and white fish on drive up day but didn't fish hard until Saturday. I got up early and was fishing on the river by 8:00 am. I wanted to get to my "double secret" fishing spot which unfortunately am not able to disclose at this time. I will say this: I had to drive up river from Cobble Rock campground.

Getting up that early was a mistake. The spot I was fishing at was still in the shadows of the canyon and it was COLD, my fly line was freezing in my guides but I persevered. I euro nymphed for over three hours and managed to catch one rainbow. I was complaining to myself: This Crooked River is overrated, too many people, no fish, etc etc.

Around 11:00 I figured I would head back to the campground catch a meal. A husband and wife team strolled by and asked if they could fish below me and I said sure. I decided to sit there and watch them for a bit, turned out to be a good decision. They were fishing dries with indicators and no sooner did they start fishing, the fish got active on top. They started catching fish at a good clip so I joined them. I did think to bring my four weight with me, set up to fish on top and after a couple of casts caught a nice rainbow. After fifteen minutes or so I switched out my terminal fly to a soft hackle. I now had a Pliva Shuttlecock on front and my rendition of an orange soft hackle trailing. From that point it was on. I caught one shrimpy and a few white fish the rest were rainbows.

I was catching a fish every third cast or so, 10" to 14" bows in a body of water that 10' x 20'. As a matter of fact, I was having the most success casting out and holding my fly line off the water and fishing with just my leader. I was pooped out from all the euro nymphing so sat on a rock and fished from there. Not sure if I was less visible but fishing actually picked up. Around 1:30 or so I told myself if I don't catch a fish in 5 minutes I'm heading back. That's when I caught the beauty you see in the picture. I didn't bring my camera but the nice man fishing below me snapped the shot..I figured it wouldn't get any better than that and headed back.



Not sure why that spot was so good but every time I've fished there locals eventually showed up. I found it by dumb luck which is better than skill any day. Next year I'll agree to take someone from the club providing they'll sign a nondisclosure statement and wear a blindfold.

Casting Clinics for Santiam Flycaster Members

Fine tune your fly presentation skills each Saturday

Wallace Marine Park

Spey casting at 9:30 a.m. on the gravel bar

Single hand casting at 1:00 p.m. on the soccer field
(gravel parking area)

No charge-A benefit of your Santiam Flycaster membership

Contact Klem at 503-302-9484

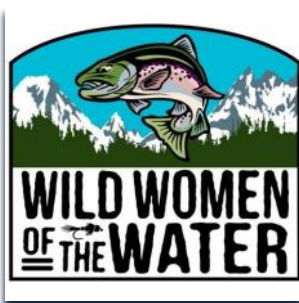
FFI Women Connect Initiative

From Sue Coyle, FFI Women Connect Liaison

Hello to all women fly fishers in our lovely state of Oregon! Are you aware that the Federation of Fly Fishers International (FFI) has an excellent women's program, Women Connect? Women Connect is an outreach arm of FFI and our goal is to inspire more women into the sport of fly fishing and create a network of likeminded women supporting one another through community, education and events. For more information, check out the FFI website, flyfishersinternational.org, for Women Connect details and also like the Women Connect Facebook page.

I am the FFI Oregon Council Women Connect Liaison. In addition, I am the Program Coordinator for Wild Women of the Water, a group of 75+ women connected with the Central Oregon Flyfishers. FFI and Women Connect has designated June 2021 as Women Fly Fishing Month encouraging women to get out on the water and to take a child fishing.

In support of Women Connect and June Women Fly Fishing Month, the Central Oregon Wild Women of the Water invite all interested women to our Wild Women outing at East Lake on June 11-18. We invite you to our potluck on Saturday, June 12. East Lake is a popular fishing lake in Central Oregon with available camping and a resort.



For more information on how to get involved with Women Connect and/or to join our June outing, please contact me, Sue Coyle, wildwomen@coflyfishers.org.

Sue Coyle

FFI Women Connect Oregon Liaison

Selection of 2021 Club Outings

April 17	McKenzie (Hayden-Armitage)
May 1	Deschutes (Warm Springs-Trout Creek)
May 12 (Wed.)	Silverton Reservoir
May 22	Olalla Reservoir
June 2 (Wed.)	Crane Prairie
June 12	North Santiam (Stayton-Shelburn)
June 26	East Lake
July 10	South Santiam
July 14/15 (Wed/Thur)	Gold Lake
July 28 (Wed.)	Three Creek Lake
August 4 (Wed.)	North Santiam (Shelburn-Greens Bridge)
August 14	Willamette (Keizer Rapids-Wheatland)
August 21 (Rocky Point)	Klamath Lake
September 11	Diamond Lake
September 15 (Wed.)	McKenzie (Bellinger-Hayden)
September 25	Hosmer Lake
October 9	Crooked River
October 13 (Wed.)	Willamette (Marshall Is.-Harrisburg)
October 23	Deschutes (Warm Springs-Trout Creek)
November 6	Detroit Lake

Using “Zoom” To View The SFC Meeting

Due to the pandemic for the foreseeable future club meetings will be held using the Zoom videoconferencing service. Santiam Flycasters members will receive a link to join the Zoom Meeting one week, one day and one hour before the start of scheduled meetings. To join a meeting, simply click on the “Join the Meeting” link in one of the emails you receive. You can join the meeting early, but you will be placed into a Zoom waiting room until you are admitted into the meeting at around 7:00 PM.

There are several options for joining the meeting. You can join with a computer, a smart device, or a regular telephone. If you join with your computer, you will need to have a speaker(s) connected to the computer so that you can hear the presentation. It helps to have downloaded the Zoom Client for Meetings onto your computer beforehand. We recommend doing that prior to joining the meeting. You will be given that option in the email you receive with the “Join Meeting” link. You do not need a camera or a microphone on your computer, but that is an option if you wish to be seen and heard during the meeting. You will have the option to turn off your camera and microphone anytime during the meeting.

If you are joining the meeting with a smart phone or tablet, it may be best to first download the Zoom Cloud Meeting app. With the “Zoom Cloud Meetings” app installed, after you click on the “Join Meeting” link in your email, you will be given the option to open the “Zoom Cloud Meeting” app.

You can also join the meeting on your landline phone. You simply call the phone number provided in the email you receive. When prompted, you will enter the meeting ID followed by the # key. You will be able to listen to the presentation but will not be able to see the presentation or be seen by others.

Note: You will be provided with a Meeting ID but there is no password for joining this Zoom Meeting. Make sure to select the “Call using Internet” option if prompted.

A YouTube tutorial on joining a Zoom Meeting can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tr-JHfEas8k>

If you have questions, contact Tim Johnson at tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com, or call 503-507-8552. He is particularly interested in hearing from any member who wishes to take advantage of closed captioning option for the meetings.

April 17 McKenzie Outing



On April 17, river level permitting, we will float the McKenzie River from Hayden Bridge to Armitage Park, a distance of about 8 miles. A pontoon or drift boat is needed for this trip.

We will meet at Armitage Park at 8:00 a.m. To get there, drive I-5 south to Exit 99 (Coburg), turn right for about a mile to Coburg, turn left at the stoplight onto Coburg Road, and drive south across the river to Armitage Park on your right. Be ready to pay a \$4 parking fee or you can buy a pass through the Lane County Parks website. We will combine boats and shuttle up to Hayden Bridge.

Suggested gear is 4-6 weight rods with floating line or you can use a Euro-nymphing setup. For nymphing in cold water, I suggest using a very heavy fly, like a Perdigon, trailed with a nymph, midge pupa, or soft hackle, and fished close to the bottom. For swinging, a good method is to use a beadhead, like a possie bugger, trailed by a soft hackle or other wet fly. After mid-day, swinging just a soft hackle can be productive or there may be a hatch!

Our target bug is the March Brown mayfly, so bring soft hackles, emergers, etc., as well as normal searching patterns like possie buggers and prince nymphs. Other caddis and stonefly pupa, nymphs, and possibly dries could be successful, as are midge pupa and BWO patterns.

Dennis Burnett is the outing sponsor, so e-mail him at dennisb464@gmail.com if you have a question or need help with fishing tactics for this trip.

The club will not provide a meal, so remember to bring your lunch as well as your PFD.

May 1 Deschutes Outing



We will float and fish the Deschutes River from Warm Springs to Trout Creek on May 1. If you do not have a pontoon or drift boat to float the river, there is a lot of fishable water near the campground.

To get to Trout Creek Campground, drive to Sandy either on I-5/I-205/Highway 26 through Clackamas and Boring or go through Woodburn/Molalla/Estacada, drive

Highway 26 east over Mount Hood and through Warm Springs, turn left onto Gumwood or Columbia at the top of the hill past Warm Springs, turn and drive north about 3 miles to Juniper Lane, turn east and follow it to the community of Gateway, turn left near the railroad onto the road to Trout Creek, and follow it about 6 miles to the campground. Campsites are first come, first served.

Suggested gear is 5-6 weight rods with floating line or you can use a Euro-nymphing setup. Nymphing will be the most productive, often fished under an indicator and weighted to fish along the bottom, and include Euro-nymph patterns, soft hackles, prince, pheasant tail, hare's ear, green rockworm, and midge pupa. At least the trailing fly probably should be size 16-18. There may be some dry fly action on caddis and BWOs in the afternoon.

Remember your boating pass if you float the river. Also, you must buy a permit to fish the Tribal (west) side of the river or risk a substantial penalty. You can buy both of these passes through links on our club website.

Our process is to consolidate and load our boats at Trout Creek Campground at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and shuttle them to Warm Springs. If you drive, you will need to arrange a shuttle back to the campground.

The club probably will not provide a meal, so bring adequate food and beverage. We will have a campfire each evening. Also, remember your wading staff and PFD.

Tim Johnson loves this river and is sponsor for this trip, so e-mail him at tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com or call him at (503)507-8552 if you have a question.

Crooked River Outing Report

By Ricky Love

Fifteen members ventured over the mountain and through the woods to the Crooked River for our bi-annual outing. The weather was very pleasant during the days ranging from 60 – 63 degrees but the nights were below freezing each day with a cold 24 degrees Friday/Saturday early morning. The river levels and temperatures were normal low levels this time of year at 47 Cubic Feet Per Second (CFS) and 2.1 feet on the river gauge. The water temps ranged from 36 degrees in the am to 43 degrees midday. This made fishing very slow in the morning and a bit better early afternoon.

There was a BWO hatch each afternoon that provided fair dry fly action. The success rate varied among members with Kent Toomb having the best success on Saturday and netting 25 fish. All members brought a fish to the net despite the tough conditions. Kent caught several on a Bunny Dun BWO Dry Fly in sizes 18-20, and also netted fish sub-surface with size 18 Zebra Midge. Our President, Scotty Vaslev, had some success swinging soft hackle flies and netted a nice 17-inch Red side Rainbow as well as a few other rainbows and several white fish. Tim Johnson shared the biggest fish award of the trip with Scotty and netted a nice 17-inch White Fish on a Rainbow Warrior nymph. Other members netted fish on pheasant tail nymphs and black zebra midges.

Small flies and a lot of patience were the keys to success in the afternoon. I also caught a nice 14-inch Red Side with a size 18 Bunny Dun BWO Dry Fly in the late afternoon and netted 11 White Fish mostly on a Quilldigon Euro-nymph (size 18) that imitates BWO Nymph. On Friday afternoon I saw one of the locals fishing a pool of slow water and catching fish just below me. On my way back to camp we exchanged pleasantries and he told me he was having a lot of success fishing big black wooly buggers in the slower pools. He said he had caught a 17-inch and 20-inch Red side the past few days and mentioned he was using the biggest Wooly Buggers in his box. I've heard of others using this same method with good success and will definitely bring some wooly buggers next time.

Although fishing was pretty tough each day, we enjoyed a nice campfire with members on Friday and again on Saturday evening that included Blueberry/Peach Cobbler with Huckleberry Ice Cream. We learned more about each other during our introductions/conversations and had a

few new members on an outing for the very first time. It appeared they really enjoyed themselves. The area is beautiful and there is plenty to do for non-fishing guests. There is a great hike right at Chimney Rock Campground that I would call moderate. The total hike is about 3.2 miles with the first half going uphill but only a small section has elevation that will slow your pace a little. On top you have a beautiful view of the Crooked River and all the beautiful snow-capped mountains of the High Cascades (Three Sisters, Mt Bachelor, etc.). It's all downhill and easy on the way back to camp.



If you haven't made an outing to the Crooked River, I highly recommend putting it on your bucket list. We do have another outing planned for the Crooked River this year on October 9. Hope to see you there.

My Pyramid Lake Experience

By Beth Jappay

Pyramid Lake is a destination fishery for the stillwater fisherman and has been on my bucket list for a while. The fish-- Lahontan Cutthroat--are huge, and in the spring, they cruise the shallows of this high desert lake. There are all these cool pictures of fishermen fishing while standing or sitting on ladders. How intriguing!



This past December I made plans to spend a week there in the spring as I have heard the "ladder fishing" was a March/

April thing. I randomly picked the third week of March, booking a spot at the RV park and 2 days with a guide.

I spent the winter doing research and tying my flies. I highly recommend a [You Tube documentary](#) about the lake, and how the Lahontan Cutthroat have been rescued from extinction. I obtained the fly patterns from two websites: [Bucket List Fly Fishing](#) (the guide service I hired), and the [Reno Fly Shop](#).

In January I started working on my Fancy Ladder, which will be a separate article, since you all know I love telling funny stories.



I got my RV back from the shop the day before I left town, threw everything in it and headed down the road early on Saturday morning. I gassed up, did my grocery shopping in Klamath Falls and decided to push through and get to Pyramid lake that night.

I made the mistake of blindly relying on Google Maps for navigation. It directed me to take 395 south, and then turn east on Wendell road. Twenty minutes later and at full dark I was traveling down the paved road, when I noticed the road was looking funny ahead. I suddenly was fishtailing on a gravel road at 60 mph while Google was announcing “Welcome to Nevada” in my ear. Not sure how much of the trip remained on gravel I decided to keep traveling rather

than backtrack. An hour later I hit the Reservation boundary and the road conditions deteriorated, and I had to slow down to 20 mph.

After a total of 2 hours of shaking and shuddering on the various gravel roads I arrived at the Sutcliffe Marina. I spent the night there, then joined Shandy at Pelican Point Beach early the next morning.

It was quite a sight, a quarter mile of beach with a ladder or ladder chair with a fisherman on top every 50 to 80 feet.

I tried fishing on the stepladder Shandy had left, but found my back started hurting after only about an hour, so I set up my Fancy Ladder.



As you can imagine there was nothing else quite like it on the beach.

I immediately noticed that there was a midge hatch. It was a remarkable sight watching porpoising trout the size of small porpoises! Rob Anderson had let me know the midge patterns that were working were the Copper Wino and UPS flies in size #12 and I knew that the guides did most of their indicator fishing with switch rods. I put one of each under an

indicator, using 2x tippet and my 7 weight, 11-foot switch rod with a brand new "Chucker" line. Over the next 2 hours I picked up three fish, including a 10lb fish, a 12 lb. fish, and had a break off that must have been 15+ lbs.





Then the midge hatch stopped, that technique wasn't getting much action, and I changed one of my midges to a balanced leech, and I caught a nice fish on an olive pattern and another on the [Midnight Cowboy](#) pattern. When that technique stopped working, I decided to switch to shooting heads on my 9-foot 7 weight rod, as I noticed the fishermen around me were now successful with stripping. Rob told me that the Loco Beetle was the hot fly with shooting heads, and he was right. What a weird fly, and it ended up being my most productive fly of the whole trip.

I tie this pattern with [FNF Jelly Fritz 10mm in "Hulk" color](#) chenille, and Chocklett's Loco Foam in mother of pearl on a Hanak 900BL hook, size #8.

The shooting head needs to be a 6 or 7 sink rate, and it worked best to use a 12-15 lb. leader, tying the loco beetle (also called the "popcorn" fly) as a dropper 18 to 30" from the fly line, with a booby about another 3-5 feet away as the point fly. I almost never caught a fish on the booby, but I think that fly was important to keep the beetle at the right depth. I caught another 2 fish that day for a total of 7. I subsequently learned I had now earned a reputation on the beach.

None of my fish that week were under 20 inches.

The next day was my first day scheduled with the guide, and it was 34 degrees and very windy. He set Shandy and I up on the same beach, so we could retreat to our vehicles to warm up, which ended up being a great idea. He supplied great ladder chairs and let us know the only fly to fish was a copper wino with a pink bead. He always has the dropper fly at 3 feet and the point fly at 5 feet under the indicator. He taught us that the best cast with our switch rods was the "lake double spey". And.....that was the extent of what I learned from him. His technique worked for the hour prior to and hour after sunrise and I picked up two fish. Then the hatch stopped and neither Shandy nor I had a bite for the next 3 hours. He was unwilling to switch to a different technique (!), and at that point I grabbed my shooting head system and started doing my own thing, fishing the beetle again and now getting bites. Shandy stuck with the indicator fishing and picked up two in the early afternoon. He gave me some advice on my stripping rate and we mutually agreed to cancel the next day's trip. A guide's day at Pyramid ends at 2-3 pm, and shortly after that Shandy decided to take off. I decided it was easiest to fish that same beach the rest of the week.

It is the local etiquette to remove the ladder from the water at night and set up anew every morning. It is legal to start fishing an hour prior to sunrise, and the best fishing was early in the morning and again the last 1-2 hours prior to sunset. Each morning I used my headlamp to set up in the dark and spent the day fishing next to and chatting with a different neighbor. On day #4 my neighbor was Dave from Nevada, and I was sharing with him my story of fishing at Rocky Point in August when I realized he was friends with Benson, whom I wrote about in my article in the January newsletter (he had caught 63 fish that day and over 160 for that 3-day week). What a small world! It got even smaller when Benson, having heard his name, came down to say Hi!

I will take any opportunity to observe the techniques of a productive fly fisherman, and at that point I moved my ladder and set up next to Benson. I confessed that I had been observing him closely at Rocky Point, and we laughed when he said he had been observing me as well at the same time. Benson has been fishing Pyramid lake since he was a dental student in 1972, lately fishing it two days a week from January through the spring. I noted he fished the entire day with a T11 as a shooting head and used the same beetle/booby set up I was. He

once I need to mention how powerful, sudden, and remarkable the wind can be. It typically comes mid-day. One day it was so strong I was turning my back on surf-like crashing waves setting up my ladder and saw my first ladder knocked over (it is recommended you attach a small buoy to your ladder). Casting into it was frustrating and that day I gave up after going 90 minutes without a bite. I was initially pissed off and feeling like a wuss, realizing I was both the only woman and practically the only one giving up, but I decided to just think of myself as being smarter instead.

After spending a full week there, I still haven't figured out how people decide what beach to fish. The Reno fly shop said, "look for all the people". I read that one should fish the side of the lake that is facing the wind, but that can make casting very difficult. Our guide advised the opposite. I did learn that Pelican Beach was better for stripping beetles, and Pelican Rocks was better for indicator fishing. Shandy's buddy Kele picked up a nice fish on midges there, and she sent me this gorgeous picture.



I learned that the fish cruise the shore and shore-line drop-offs in the winter and through April, which is how "ladder fishing" came into being. In May they go deep, and everyone switches to fishing from pontoons and boats, but beware: the wind will come up suddenly and powerfully, and people in pontoons and float tubes have been known to have been blown far out from shore. The lake is closed to fishing in mid-June. When it reopens in October and into November the fishing is completely different. The cutthroat are hunting the native Cui-ui, and heavily weighted baitfish patterns are used stripped at a depth of 30-40 feet. The biggest fish are caught at this time of year. I am already planning a trip back after opening day.

The lake is entirely on the Paiute reservation, so a Nevada fishing license is not required. The tribe used to offer a season license for \$100 and allow camping on any beach, but now one has to buy a permit for either 1 or 3 days for just about everything. It is \$62 for a 3-day fishing permit, \$56 for a 3 day "Day use" and \$82 for 3-day overnight camping, which is now only allowed in campgrounds. The permits are easily purchased online but be aware that only Verizon has any adequate signal. While I was there the pit toilets were locked closed, making me glad I had the RV there. There is a limit to the number of days in a row that one is allowed to camp there as well.

The other advice I have is to plan for two more layers of clothing than you think you will need. Shandy suggested and supplied me with textured nitrile gloves, and they worked great. I wore fingerless winter gloves on top of them. I was also very glad for the down hood on my new down coat, which I at one point wore on top of two layers of wool and my down vest, and under my Simms jacket.

My trip ended on day 7 and I drove to Reno on Saturday. Sunday morning, I left my RV in the long-term parking lot at the Reno airport, and flew back home. I am currently planning on flying back on this coming Saturday, and spending another week there, this time fishing the morning and evening bite, and telecommuting from my laptop in my RV during the middle of the day. We'll just have to see if I can make it work. Plan on an update in next month's newsletter.

April 2021 Fly of the Month

March Brown Nymph

By Dell Swearingen



Materials List:

- Hook:** DAI-Riki #730 or #285 Size 14-12
- Thread:** Rusty brown 6/0
- Body:** Tan or light brown rabbit dubbing formed into small dubbing noodle
- Rib:** Tan or brown vinyl-flat on one side
- Backing:** Brown or tan scud back and about 1/2 of hook gap turkey feather barbules
- Legs:** Brown pheasant hen, speckled hen saddle or partridge feather
- Thorax:** Tan rabbit dubbing a little thicker noodle that used on body
- Head:** Three wraps of small rabbit dubbing noodle covered with scud back
- Tail:** Three pheasant tail barbules

Rhithrogena morrisoni is the scientific name for the Western March Brown Mayfly. This fly pattern was invented by Bob Jacklin in 1970 for fishing New York streams. [Others tied similar patterns.] Bob later updated the fly with modern tying materials. This is his go-to trout fly throughout the Northwest. The Deschutes, McKenzie and Willamette Rivers all have healthy March Brown Mayfly hatches. When river levels decrease and the water temperature reaches around 47 degrees, be prepared for a March Brown hatch. This generally takes place around the March/April timeframe.

Directions:

Cover up most of the hook with touching wraps of .015 lead free wire as shown in figure 1. Leave about a 3/8 of an inch of bare hook behind the eye. As seen in figure 2, secure the wire with a covering of 6/0 rusty brown thread. Cement the wire and thread in place.



Figure 1: Round Lead Free Wire .015

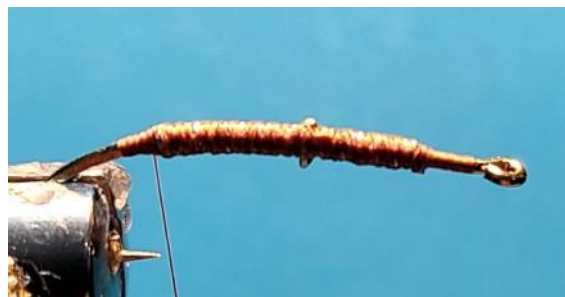


Figure 2: Cover With Rusty Brown Thread

Make a very small dubbing noodle of tan rabbit fur and make two or three small wraps in back of the lead wire.

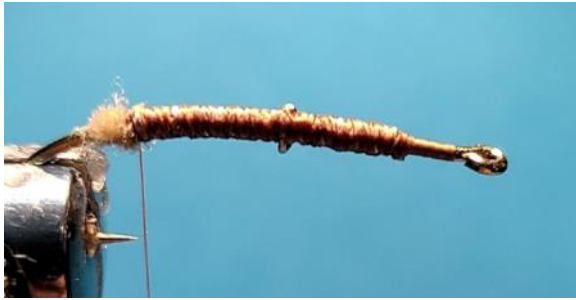


Figure 3: Small Tan Rabbit Dubbed Tip

Tie in three pheasant barbules as in figure 4.



Figure 4: Three Pheasant Barbules

Attach brown vinyl to one side of the hook and flatten with a pair of pliers. This serves to widen the body.



Figure 5: Attach Brown Vinyl To Hook Shank

Make a thin rabbit dubbing loop and wrap forward with touching turns to about 3/8" behind the hook eye.



Figure 6: Thin Rabbit Dubbing Loop Applied To Form The Abdomen.

Next palmer the vinyl forward, flat side up, to segment the fly's abdomen. Next, tie on the scud backing.



Figure 7: Scud Backing Secured

As seen in figure 8, tie in the turkey barbules on top of the scud backing.



Figure 8: Turkey Barbules Tied To The Hook

Prepare a partridge feather by stripping off the fluff from the stem. Keep only the barbules needed to form the legs. Tie the feather in by the tip with the dull side up and then trim off the tip.



Figure 9 Original Speckled Hen Saddle Compared With Hen Saddle Prepared For Fly Legs

Form a little thicker dubbing noodle to form a healthy thorax for the fly.



Figure 10: Speckled Hen Feather Secured With Dubbing Noodle Below.

Use the dubbing noodle to form the thorax.

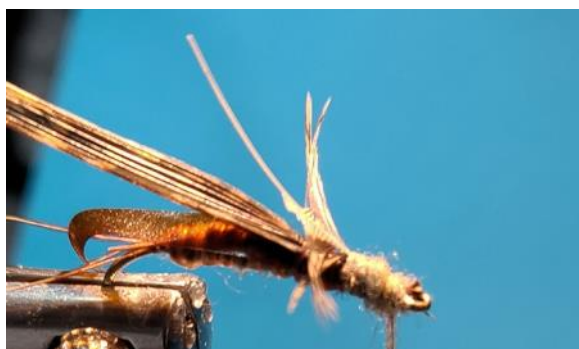


Figure 11: Dubbing Noodle Applied To Form Thorax

Fold and tie in pheasant feather to form legs.

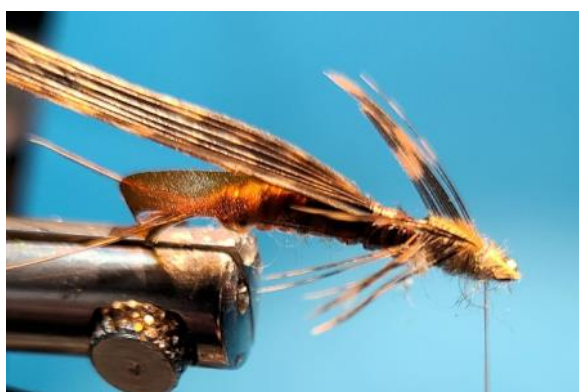


Figure 12: Attach Pheasant Feather To Form Legs.

Fold down turkey barbules, tie off in back of the eye and then trim off the excess. Then fold down the scud back, but at this point **do not** trim off the excess.

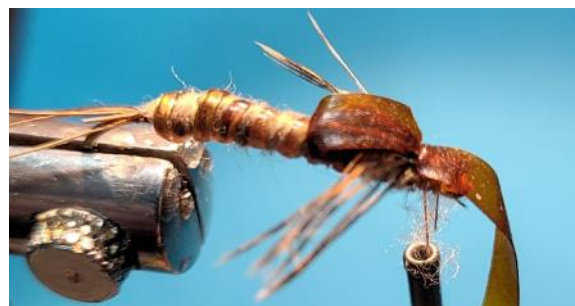


Figure 13: Turkey Barbules And Scud Back Tied down.

Create a small dubbing noodle and wrap twice behind eye to form a head. Then fold the scud back over the dubbing noodle, tie off in front of the thorax to complete the head and carefully trim off the excess. Finish with a couple of coats of UV adhesive.



Figure 14: Finished March Brown Pattern.

Date _____