

November Fly of the Month

Orange Woolly Burger

by Dell Swearingen



Materials List:

Bead:	Large gold or black
Hook:	Firehole 811 size # 6, 8 or 10
Thread:	6/0, 8/0, or 10/0 orange
Body:	Arizona simi seal Canada Orange or Hairline UV Rust
Wire:	Ultra wire BR copper or gold
Hackle:	Medium UV Polar orange chenille
Tail:	Hot orange marabou with one strand of Mirage tinsel on either side

Background:

The Canadian border is now open for vaccinated tourist with a 72-hour negative Covid test, so a fishing trip to Quesnel Lake in British Columbia is on the agenda for next week. Kokanee spawn from mid-October to mid-November, during the spawn large rainbows and lake trout feed on kokanee eggs, and on dead and dying Kokanee. Historically, orange woolly burgers with both orange or black tails and red or orange Estaz chenille wrapped around an egg hook has also been effective.

Type 3, 6 or 7 full sink fly lines work well. Rio full sink lines have a tendency of tangling after a several casts in the cold weather; however, Scientific Angler fly lines seem to work better. Navigating along the shoreline, alternate casting towards the bank and stripping back to the pontoon boat and then casting out into the Lake and stripping back seems to work best. When casting out, count down to the level of the fish to allow the flies to sink to their level before stripping.

Directions:

1. Place the bead on the fly hook, insert the barbless hook in the vise, secure thread on hook using about six or seven touching turns and then insert wire in the back of the bead and continue wrapping the thread to the bend of the hook.

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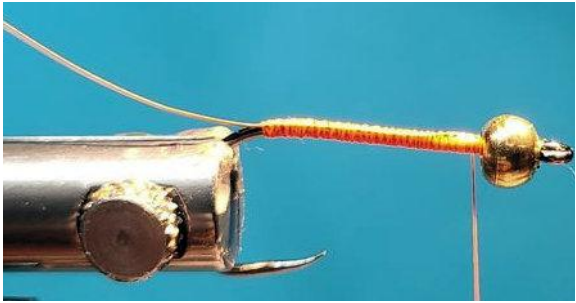


Figure 1

2. Measure several fibers of marabou so they protrude about the length of the hook shank behind the fly and secure them to the hook. Also, secure a strip of Mirage tinsel on either side of the tail.



Figure 2

3. Secure a strip of orange polar chenille to the hook shank directly in front of the tail and wrap the chenille to the back of the bead. As you wrap the chenille forward, use your thumb and forefinger to force the fibers toward the back of the fly.



Figure 3

4. Use UV glue on the back of the bead and UV light to cure the glue. Brush the fibers back until they flatten against the hook. Phil Rowley suggests to dip the fly in hot water to eliminate the memory out of the fibers to help flatten them.



Figure 4