

Fly of the Month

Possie Bugger

By Dell Swearingen



Attractor Pattern:

Material List:

Hook: #12-8 Nymph Picture shows a Dai-Riki 730 2X #8.

Thread: 6/0 Black

Weight: .020 Lead Optional 5 turns

Tungsten Bead: Gold (or Black) fit to hook size

Tail: Australian Possum with 1 strand of Pearl Flashabou on each side (Flashabou extends ¼ inch beyond tail)

Body: Squirrel or rabbit dubbing (color of choice.)

Rib: Pearl Flashabou with BR copper wire counter wrapped to bead

Hackle: Partridge feather

Collar: Black UV Ice Dub or Peacock

The Possie Bugger is a popular fly throughout the Northwest and is available in fly shops., but is used in many other areas as well. It can be effective tied in multiple colors from light to dark. For some reason, several of the well-known fly tying books fail to mention this fly. It has performed well on local rivers and Stillwater lakes.

Tying Instructions: Thread bead on the hook and insert hook in vice. Smash the barb down. Lay down a thread base and add five wraps of non-lead .020 wire behind bead. Secure wire with thread wraps. Continue thread wraps down the hook until parallel to the barb. Add Australian Possum tail about the length of the hook gap. Place small strip of Pearl Flashabou on either side of the tail and secure in place. This Flashabou should extend ¼ inch beyond the tail. Tie in three-inch strip of Ultra BR size copper wire on the side of the hook and then tie in a three-inch strip of Pearl Flashabou. Allow both wire and Flashabou to hang behind the hook for later use. Secure a squirrel dubbing noodle around thread and wrap from tail to within 1/8 inch of the bead and tie off. Spiral the Flashabou around the hook in five evenly spaced wraps to the bead and tie off. Counter wrap copper wire in five evenly spaced wraps to the bead and tie off. The wire helps reinforce the dubbing and Flashabou. Tie Partridge hackle in by the tip, trim off the tip and run scissors down both sides of the stem to loosen the barbs. Fold both sides of feather back and wrap two or three turns toward the bead secure the feather with two turns of thread. Pull the hackle back and force it down with two more wraps of tying thread. Make a small dubbing noodle of black ice dub or peacock hurl, wrap the noodle around the hook pushing the hackle back and filling the 1/8th space behind the bead. Whip finish, and trim thread. Add a small amount of head cement and the fly is ready to fish. Fishes similar to a Prince Nymph.

