

OSPREY FLY BOX

THE RED SHINER

contributed by
Craig Graham

A few years ago, two of my work mates in North Vancouver were taking a May trip to the Cariboo. Most often they fished with spinning gear, but occasionally one of them would venture his luck with a fly rod.

On this trip they fished a few lakes over five days with mediocre to fair success. On their return to work they brought to my attention a fly they wanted me to duplicate. They wanted me to knock off a number of these for their next trip north in June. It seemed that of the variety of flies they had purchased and plied; this particular one had the uncanny charm of forcing fish to taste it.

The owner of the 'fly rod' said he would check to see if he had any more at home in his gear bag. He had only purchased a few and the fish had broken those off within minutes of the fly being trolled a short distance. Two days later he came by and showed me the fly.

It was the type of fly that catches your eye when perusing the local fly shop's offerings. A rather remarkable fly for lakes, I thought.

The gear fishermen had been catching rainbows on a very large, and gaudy, steelhead fly on a #2 streamer hook.

Their casual observation of the stomach contents of the singular fish that was landed convinced them of finding smaller versions of this great fly.

And they would be able to cram more flies into a zip lock bag.

On their return from their next trip they reported their experience. Early in the day, armed with the singular fly rod owned between them, using the floating line that had been provided with the rod when purchased, they began their day. In

less than 10 feet of water, trolling proved to be one technique worth repeating.



Occasionally they would somehow manage to cast the fly near the outside of the weeds, more than once getting caught IN the weeds, then jiggle it off and with the erratic movement of the fly sunk below the film, feel a take.

Rowing the boat in a zigzagging pattern along the drop offs with the sun setting low in the sky was another means to their success.

Blackwater and Tzenzaicut rainbows are the strains of rainbows to target. Some lakes to seek out are Tahla, Courtney, Hobson, Victoria, Dragon, Sheridan, Tzenzaicut, Shawnigan, Forest, Starlike, Gladstone, and Pear.

I like this fly because it is an easy tie, and on hook sizes as small as #12, and as large as #6, it can be very effective.

MATERIALS



Hook: Mustad 9671 or Tiemco 5262
 Sizes: #8 to #12

Thread: Black

Tail: Red Flashabou

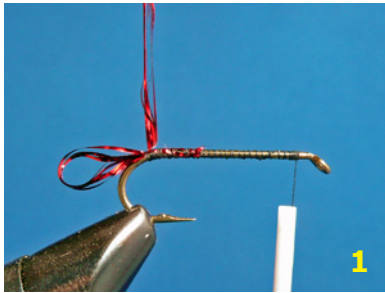
Body: Red Flashabou

Wing: Flashabou - Red, Silver, Red

Hackle: Red or Orange Hen Hackle

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

by Peter Chatt



Debarb the hook.
Tie on a thread base.
Tie in 1/2 the amount of Flashabou (depending the size of hook) for the tail
Fold it back to the hook leaving the tail length,
Tie down.



Wrap flashabou forward making a solid body.
Clip the tail to length.
TYER'S NOTE: When tying with Flashabou or synthetics, moisten them between your lips for control and to hold them together while tying.



Tie in a small bundle of Red Flashabou.
Fold it back to lock it in place with a few more wraps.



Tie in a smaller bundle of silver flashabou.
Tie in another small bundle of red flashabou.
Tie in the red hackle by the tip.

The Finished Fly



The "Red Shiner"

Wrap the hackle.
Tie off and clip the excess.
Form a thread head.
Whip finish and add a drop of head cement.