

OSPREY FLY BOX

BLACK BEAR GREEN BUTT

contributed by
Wayne Fortune

This fly was used when I caught my first Atlantic Salmon on the Miramichi many moons ago in

New Brunswick. I was invited by a resident of New Brunswick who had a guide license that would allow himself and one other to fish the rivers of New Brunswick.

His sister and friend also had the same license, so my father-in-law and another lad came as well.

We had six rods total. We then bid on a section of the Miramichi and won.

It was for four days and came with a fisherman's lodge. No one else was allowed to fish that section of the river other than us.

Doesn't get much better than that, eh?? Ha ha!

Well, mother nature wasn't on our side, as it rained the day before, that night and the next day.

Very high conditions and fishing wasn't the best. I was new at salmon fishing and had never caught one. My father-in-law, Steve, however, was a guide from Nova Scotia and had a lot of experience. He was the reason I knew how to fly fish and was coaching me on salmon.

On the last day, the river was starting to get more prime. Steve and I went down to a spot that he said he saw one roll by a rock. He told me that he couldn't quite reach out that far with his line and that I should give it a try. (I learned later, that he just wanted to see if I could catch one)

So I got started with my rod and after quite a while I was able to get it close to where he saw her roll. I was as deep as I

would dare with my waders but was determined, especially with the old guy watchin'. Nothing was rising at all, so Steve said he was going back to the lodge and bring us back a sandwich.

He wasn't gone long when I hooked into, what was for me, a very large and powerful salmon.



As you can imagine I was yelling for Steve to grab the "f#@kin' net" but he was too far up the river to hear me.

So, it was the salmon and me (*and only two inches of water below the top of my waders*)

All I could hear in my mind was Steve saying "bow to the salmon when they break", so that's what I did, three times she breached and I still had her on. She was heading for the fast water and ripping out my line. Luckily I quickly got the hang of palming my reel. I was finally able to bring her in

and tail her, I was told there is a nerve somewhere??

Anyway, the tail end was against the top of my hip and with a last ditch effort on her part she flexed..... and was gone....

All I had left was this big grin on my face thinking, how am I going to convince everyone back at the lodge I had the best fight in my life, let alone my first Atlantic Salmon ...almost?

As I was walking back, I realized that this was the fly I tied when I couldn't find any hair for the wing and my Great Dane, who was minding his own business, got some of his tail hairs snipped off. Don't worry, they grew back in and he got extra treats.

MATERIALS



Hook: Salmon ~ Mustad 36890, Tiemco 7999 or Partridge M ~ Size #2 - #10

Thread: Black

Tag: Flat Silver Tinsel

Tail: Golden Pheasant Crest

Butt: Fluorescent Green Floss

Rib: Flat Silver Tinsel

Body: Black Floss

Throat: Black Saddle Hackle

Wing: Black Bear *or substitute*
(Great Dane tail, in the author's case)

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

& Photography by Peter Chatt



- Debarb the hook.
- Lay the body with thread.
- Tie in a Silver Tag (*no more than 3 to 4 wraps*)
- Tie in a Golden Pheasant Crest for the tail.
- Tie in the Flourescent Green Floss.



- Wind the Green Floss forward to form the butt. (*Length of butt will be proportonate with the hook*).
- Tie in the Silver Tinsel.
- Tie in the Black Floss.



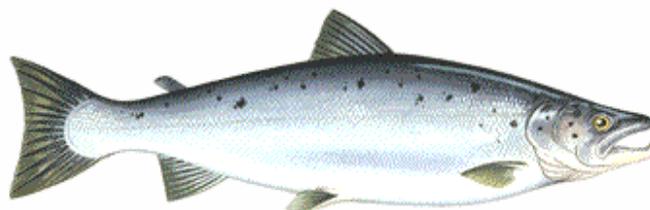
- Wind the black floss forward to form a slender body. Clip the excess.
- Wind the silver rib forward and clip the excess.

The Finished Fly



Black Bear Green Butt

- Tie in black saddle hackle fibres for the throat.
- Tie in a small bundle of black bear for the wing.
- Form a small thread head and whipfinish
- Paint the head with one or two coats of head cement or clear head lacquer.



Atlantic Salmon