

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

contributed by

Sandy McKinlay

A few weeks prior to the Cluxewe fish out (Aug 2022), I did a google search "Friday Night Flies Pink Salmon". As most of you know Friday Night Flies is hosted by Brad Knowles of the Pemberton Fish Finder Guiding Service. An article with their top 10 flies popped up. I copied the recipes to a Word Doc and sent it off to the guys making the trek.

I tied up most of the patterns but was going to pass on the shrimp pattern. It looked quite a bit more complicated and I didn't have all the materials. On my first trip to Cluxewe back in 2006, I'd fished some of the popular shrimp patterns from back then, but didn't have much luck.

A few days before the trip, I pulled out my copy of "Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon" for a quick review of fishing techniques and food sources. I was reading the chapter on "Salmon Feed" and came across the picture below. The fly

that I hadn't tied looked an awful lot like the Hyperiid Amphipod. I read on a little further to find that amphipods are an important part of the diet for coho and pink salmon, the two species we hoped to target at Cluxewe.

Perhaps I should tie a few up. I went down to SeaRun, bought the missing materials and tied up half a dozen. I



determined then and there that it would be the first fly I tied on when I hit the beach.

Best decision I made on the trip. Second cast and I had a fish on.

There were a lot

of fish around, so maybe it was just a numbers thing. But salmon just kept on taking this fly – if fish were within casting distance, it was "fish on" with every fourth or fifth cast. One afternoon when it seemed like everyone was catching fish, an observer who'd been sitting on a log came by and told me he didn't know what I was doing but I was outfishing everyone else ... by a lot!

Towards the end of our first session on the water, Arnold asked what I was fishing. I told him it was the "Friday Night Special" – one of the patterns that I'd e-mailed him. By the end of the second day, I only had a couple flies left., so I had to tie a few more up. Neither Bruce nor Arnold had tied any up prior to the trip, but both were keen to try it. I tied up another half dozen flies and gave them each one.

They immediately had the same success I was having ... so much so ... that other anglers kept coming up to us and asking what we were fishing.



Although I probably had at least twenty different patterns with me, the Friday Night Special was the only fly I fished over the four days of fishing. It was a fantastic four days of fishing. The Friday Night Special proved to be a fantastic fly. Don't leave home without it!

Reprinted from "Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon II"

Hyperiid Amphipod: *Hyperia macrocephala*

This is a typical body form of Hyperiid amphipods, featuring very prominent eyes and head.



DR. LUIVE KILIS

Hyperiid Amphipod: *Parathemisto pacifica*



BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD

Rarely more than 1/2 inch in length, the *Pacifica* displays prominent eyes.

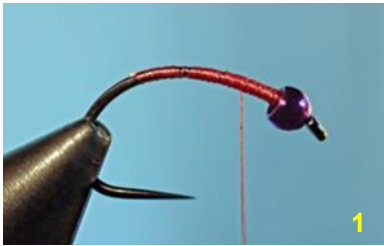
"..... Of more relevance, chum, coho, pink and sockeye consume amphipods as an important part of their diet."

**MATERIALS**



- Hook:** Togen Barbless Scud. Size 6
- Bead:** Entice Brass - Purple – 1/8"
- Thread:** Semperfli Nano Silk 12/0. Red
- Tail:** Schlappen - Orange and Hot Pink or Fushia fibres - Mixed. Krystal Flash - UV Pink – 2 strands each side.
- Rib:** Small Wire - Wine.
- Back:** EdgeBrite - Orange  
Holographic Tinsel - Fushia
- Abdomen:** Ice Dubbing - UV Hot Pink – Tight Dub
- Thorax:** Ice Dubbing - Hot Pink - Loose Dub

**TYING INSTRUCTIONS**



1. The Togen Barbless Scud hook has an offset point. It may not be necessary but I straighten the hook in the vice before I begin tying. Place the bead on the hook and put a good thread base down on the hook with a taper towards the bead.



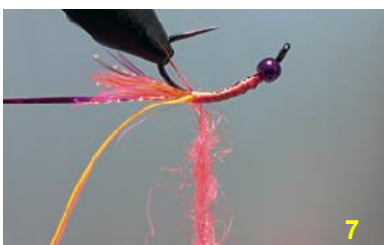
2. Take about 1/8" of fibres off the two schlappen feathers – one Orange and one Hot Pink or Fushia. Line up the fibres and roll in your fingers to mix the fibres. Tail should be approximately one body length. Put a couple thread wraps under tail to "lift" tail off shank.



3. Tie two strands of UV Pink Krystal Flash along each side of the tail.



4. Tie a piece of Fushia Holographic Tinsel along the top of the hook.



5. Tie a piece of Small Wire, Wine coloured along the bottom of the hook.



6. Cut a point on the end of a 1/8" strip of Orange Edge Brite. Tie Edge Brite in by the pointed tip.

7. Dub some UV Pink Ice Dubbing onto the thread. My preference is the split thread technique. Spin bobbin counter clock wise to flatten thread and split the thread with a bodkin. Add a bit of Dubbing Wax to the thread. Insert dubbing between the two strands. For a tight dub, I lay fibres lengthwise along thread. Spin clockwise to twist thread. Wet fingers and twist dubbing onto thread. Spin again to form "tight dubbing noodle."



**TYING INSTRUCTIONS**

..... continued



8. Wind dubbing noodle forward about 3/4 of the way up the hook shank. Abdomen should be tapered. Trim any long fibres off.



10. Pull the Fushia Holographic Tinsel forward over the centre of the Edge Brite. Tie off. Do not cut the excess.



12. Fold the Holographic Tinsel and Edge Brite back over the abdomen. Wind the thread backwards creating room for the thorax - 1 to 1½ times the bead width.



13. Turn the hook over (*in rotary vice*) and split the thread as done in Step 7. Instead of inserting fibres lengthwise, insert long fibres perpendicular to the thread. Spin the bobbin clockwise to twist the thread. Dubbing fibres should radiate from thread. Do not twist onto thread, as instructed with the abdomen.

14. Wind the dubbed thread forward to the bead. Stroke the fibres back with each wrap. The thorax should be more sparsely dubbed and have longer fibres suggesting legs.



15. Slide a bodkin along the top of the fly to split the fibres. Stroke dubbing fibres down and back. Pull the Edge Brite forward and tie off behind the bead.

16. Pull the Holographic Tinsel forward, again ensuring that it is in the middle of the Edge Brite. Tie off.



17. Tease the fibres in the thorax with a dubbing brush. Trim the dubbing – about the length of the gap. Clip the tinsel and Edge Brite.

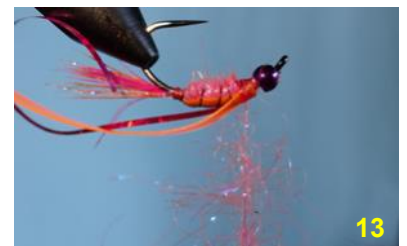
18. Add a drop of UV Resin on top – covering the thread wraps on the back. Cure with a UV light.



9. Pull the Edge Brite forward over the abdomen. Ensure that it centered over the body. Tie off. Do not cut excess.



11. Wrap Wine Wire forward – three or four turns – to the tie off point in front of abdomen. Tie off and clip the excess.



13. Turn the hook over (*in rotary vice*) and split the thread as done in Step 7. Instead of inserting fibres lengthwise, insert long fibres perpendicular to the thread. Spin the bobbin clockwise to twist the thread. Dubbing fibres should radiate from thread. Do not twist onto thread, as instructed with the abdomen.



15. Slide a bodkin along the top of the fly to split the fibres. Stroke dubbing fibres down and back. Pull the Edge Brite forward and tie off behind the bead.



17. Tease the fibres in the thorax with a dubbing brush. Trim the dubbing – about the length of the gap. Clip the tinsel and Edge Brite.

*Tight Lines & Good Luck!*