

OSPREY FLY BOX

LITTLE FORT LEECH

contributed by
Martin Swain

This past summer the family went up to Hwy 24, the fishing highway, for a week at the end of August.

I stopped in at the Lone Butte fly shop to gather some local information on what flies to use. I was told that halfbacks, green caddis pupa were on fire. I had a couple of patterns of my own, but bought some at the shop as a thank you for the local information.

We were staying at Loon Bay Resort, but I was going to fish Fawn, French and Crystal lakes.

I fished five mornings in a row for about four hours each day. The gentleman at the shop was bang on as I had double digit fish every day and the smallest was 22" the largest was 28". I was dialed in for sure.

The next morning I had made arrangements with a friend who

has a cabin on Bridge Lake. He had a sweet lake, West King, he loved and we went there. With my past five morning's information and success, I was determined to out fish my buddy.

I tied on a Half Back with a smile on my face and threw down the gauntlet. Over the next two hours I had one bump but that's it. I tied on ten different flies all with the same result.

All the time, Dave was laughing as he pulled in over 15 fish, and as much as I tried I could not see what he was using. After another hour of frustration, Dave finally took pity on me and threw me the fly he had been using, a Little Fort Leech. Within 30 seconds of tying this dandy little pattern on, I was into a nice 24" beauty.

I will always keep this gem in my fly box.

MATERIALS



Hook:	Streamer - 3XL Size: #10
Thread:	Black 6/0
Bead	5/32 Gold (<i>optional</i>)
Tail:	Black Marabou, Red Marabou
Body:	Medium Peacock Crystal Chenille
Hackle	Palmered Black Hackle

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

Photography by Peter Chatt



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- Debarb the hook.
- Place bead on hook.
- Wrap thread back to bend of hook,
- Place a clump of black marabou on hook, pinch off to about 1/2" long.
- Place a smaller clump of red marabou on top of black marabou, pinch off to about 1/4" long.
- Tie in black saddle hackle and Peacock Crystal Chenille.
- Wrap chenille forward to the bead trying not to trap fibers, tie off.
- Palmer the hackle to the bead and tie off.
- Tie it on and hang on!!

The Finished Fly



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Little Fort Leech