



“COLORADO COPPER”

November 2008 Fly of the Month

Tied and photographed
By Robert Rountree

MATERIALS

HOOK: 2XL Nymph Sz. 12—14.

THREAD: 6/0 Black

TAIL: Black Webby Saddle Hackle

BODY: Ice Dubbing—Rusty Brown/ Copper or Peacock.

HACKLE: Black saddle hackle.

The *Colorado Copper* is one of those "word-of-mouth" flies that I recently witnessed catch some rather large trout at the October 2008 CFFU President's outing in Burney, CA. Hey, what the heck are you using? The fly's name is simplicity itself as are the necessary skills required to tie a few up. I especially like flies that work to catch fish, and are easy to tie. I hope you will too. The fly was originally developed in Colorado, and passed along to CFFUer Gary Howard by his personal friend Brian Young. I am unsure of the original developer of this fly. Gary came up with the name, and it stuck.

Tying Instructions

1. (Photo 1) Smash hook barb and mount hook in vise. Pinch off several feather barbs from webby section of saddle hackle and tie in tail.



Photo 1

2. (Photo 2 & 3) Make a dubbing loop (e.g., Trap-loop Dubbing technique) with ice dubbing and form the body by wrapping the dubbing rope forward to tie-off point. Dubbing loop will hold up longer to repeated fish bites versus direct dubbing technique. Light wire dubbing loop is an option versus plain thread (see example of rusty brown/copper dubbing rope below). I prepared fly with peacock colored dubbing so you can see both colors. Save room to mount saddle hackle collar and thread head.



Photo 2



Photo 3

3. (Photo 4 & 5) Mount saddle hackle feather by base of the stem with the shiny side, facing upward. Bind the stem with a few smooth wraps and clip off remaining stem waste. Try to distribute individual barbs as evenly as possible around hook shank while preening barbs rearward as you make a few wraps of hackle around hook. May need to wrap back over feathers to ensure they sweep rearward. Tie off head, and add some head cement. You're done.



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



“Colorado Copper”