



## “MORRISON’S TARTAN OLIVE MIDGE”

July 2010 Fly of the Month

Tied and photographed  
By *Robert Rountree*

I'm headed to Diamond Lake in Oregon near press time in June for the July CFFU newsletter, and Morrison's Tartan Olive Midge is one of the hot patterns from my research for the trip. Diamond Lake has a similar story line as our own nearby Lake Davis, and was treated with Rotenone insecticide in 2007 to eradicate the tui chub minnow. The lake has recovered well since then, and trout fishing there has improved dramatically. That's the underlying story for this month's Fly of the Month so let's get right to it.

### Tying Instructions

#### MATERIALS

**HOOK:** Scud IX Fine Wire,

IX short Sz 10-12

**THREAD:** 6/0—8/0 Olive Dun

**GILLS:** White Antron

**BEAD:** Black Brass Bead, Sz 7/64” - 1/8”

**WIRE:** Ultra Wire Black & Copper  
Sz Small

**THORAX:** Peacock Herl.

**(PHOTO 1)** Clamp down the barb on your hook, and slip a brass bead onto the shank with the small diameter opening facing forward toward the eye. Mount the hook in your vise, but leave the bead resting below at this time (see photo). Tie on a small pinch of antron fibers extending beyond the hook eye, and tie off the clump with a couple of half hitches. Add a little head cement to keep things from unraveling. Cut off your thread. If you've kept your wraps to a minimum, you can now slip the brass bead all the way forward.



Photo 1



Photo 2

**(PHOTO 2)** Remount your thread behind the bead, and build up some thread behind the bead. Cover the hook shank, and move backwards beyond the barb point down the curve of the hook some to your preference. Tie in the black and copper wire together. Try to keep the thread body as smooth as possible. Move your thread back up near the bead

**(PHOTO 3)** Simultaneously wrap the two wires forward, and try to keep the distance between wraps consistent. Tie off the wire at the bead head. I actually stuff a little bit of wire into the large opening of the brass bead, and add a little head cement to help keep it in place. Cover with thread.



Photo 3



## “MORRISON’S TARTAN OLIVE NYMPH”

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**(PHOTO 4)** Mount 2-3 strands of peacock herl behind the brass bead, and give them a stroke backwards. Twist the peacock herl with your thread to help improve the longevity of your fly, and create the thorax. Tie off peacock herl, and whip finish the fly.

**(PHOTO 5)** Just a couple of things left now. Trim off the white antron fibers evenly a little bit beyond the hook eye. You can cover the midge body with a little head cement, if you prefer, to add a little shine, but keep it out of the peacock herl. The example here is covered with head cement. Try it with and without, and see what works for you (i.e., catch more fish). **You're done.**

Example here is Sz. 10. Oregon or bust!



Photo 4



Photo 5

**MORRISON’S TARTAN OLIVE NYMPH**