

Fly of the Month

The glitterback nymph

In the past couple of months I have caught six fish at Huntsman Lake, two on dry fly, one on a stick caddis and three on what I call a glitterback nymph. The glitterback had been sitting totally ignored in a dark corner of my flybox until one quiet afternoon in July when I tied it on and caught a nice fish on it. It worked on the next trip when the water was rising and a bit murky and once again on opening day. I was also using it at Huntsman Lake the other day when a moment's inattention made me miss a take. So, for me, it's more the fly of the moment than the fly of the month.



The glitterback is basically a flashback nymph but with embossed tinsel as a wingcase rather than the usual flat or holographic tinsel. In my opinion the embossed tinsel has the edge because any light reflects off in all directions, more readily catching the attention of any fish around.

Hook:- Standard nymph hook 16 -14-12. Tail :- I use strands of marabou fibre for the movement they give but soft hen will do. A short length of Krystal Flash is also added. Body :- Seals fur or substitute, in olive, black or brown. (Actually there is no substitute for seals fur.....after all, seals spend their lives catching fish so there's lots of mojo attached to it). Rib :- Silver or copper wire. Wing case :- Embossed silver or gold tinsel about one third to one half the body length.

The glitterback can be weighted with fine lead wire, in which case I finish the fly with brown thread instead of black, as in the middle one above, to make it easy to pick them in the flybox.

A.T.

