

April

Fly of the Month

Beadhead Rubberleg

Zebra Copper John

Size: 14

Color: Black & Silver



ASCENT
FLY FISHING

The Beadhead Rubberleg Zebra Copper John is like pop-rocks candy for trout, just add water and get ready for a bang! Equipped with a silver beadhead to help it sink, rubber legs for added realism and motion in the water, and contrasting colors throughout its length, this pattern is equally lethal both day and night. Whether you are fishing a Silver & Black, Silver & Blue, or Char-treuse & Black variety, this little pattern is sure to heat up your time on the water!

By Peter Stitcher

River Reports

Fish are responding very well to the increase in daily average temperature in terms of them taking more flies every day. Flows will continue to increase this month which should make for great fishing. Midges and BWOs are hatching across the state causing fish to start looking up during the warmest part of the day. During the rest of the day, hungry fish are hammering large patterns like Pat's rubber legs, San Juan's, and Egg patterns as well as smaller midge and Baetis patterns. Fishing is still fairly technical for most of the state so focus on stealthy approaches and making that first cast count.

Cheeseman Canyon- 65 cfs

Fishing in Cheeseman is still fairly technical with the low flows. However, these fish are feeding fairly well. Approach holes slowly, try to locate some feeding fish to cast to, make that first cast count. Pats Rubber legs, annelids behind pegged eggs, and your assortment of midges should serve you well if you plan to pursue these fish right now.

Poudre River- 96-230 cfs

The Poudre is fishing great right now, both in town and the lower canyon. Fish are taking dries in the early mornings and late afternoons. If you are planning to nymph the Poudre, make sure you bring an arsenal of stonefly patterns as well as rs2's. Fish have not yet moved out of their wintering holes so focus your efforts on deep pools with long tail-outs.

Blue River (Silverthorne)- 175 cfs

The Blue is on fire in town. Most of the fish are coming out of spawn and are willing to feed. Throw a big attractor up front like a San Juan or Egg pattern, follow it with your smallest midge and Baetis patterns for the best success. Sighting fish and ensuring good drifts will exponentially increase your success.

Information provided by Weston Niep

APRIL 2015



Austin E. with an awesome Dream
Stream Brown Trout

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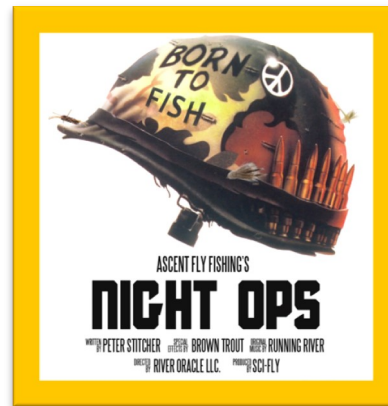
13976 West Bowles Avenue, Ste. 200
Littleton, CO 80127
Phone: (720) 962-6700

Greg.wambolt@wamboltandassoc.com

Check out the new website
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The night was blacker than tar as he crouched in the tall grass, sweat and dew mixing together, making his shirt cling to him like a second skin. The buzz of mosquitoes droned through his consciousness, their sharp mouths testing the vintage of his blood like appreciative connoisseurs, but still he remained motionless, sensing the imminence of contact approaching. A heartbeat later, the river next to which he hides erupts in a spray of foam and violence. The ensuing battle tests every bit of his will and endurance as his adversary comes at him in a series of rushes before diving back into the darkness. The sound of his heartbeat drowns out that of the river, while - with shaking hands - our victor slowly draws his quarry from the water, posing quickly for a Polaroid to memorialize this epic 8 pound brown trout before releasing back into the icy depths.

For the intrepid angler, some of the best fishing starts when the sun begins to sink and everyone else breaks down their rods for the evening. While trout are capable of perceiving color during the daylight hours, at dusk the receptors in their eyes responsible for color detection recede into the eye while those responsible for sensing light move to the forefront. The result is that trout see in grey scale at night (black and white) and with the mild cast of the moon through the water, fish can actively navigate and capture food. Understanding this, your favorite *Red Copper John* or *Pink San Juan Worm*, might not have as much attraction to the now color-blind nocturnal trout. It is instead the large profile flies and streamers tied with contrasting colors of light and dark, exaggerated motion created by rubber legs and elongated rabbit strip tails, and flashy materials that reflect little sparks of light that are going to prove most productive in the dark.



Another factor playing in favor of the nighttime angler is the propensity of large trout to leave their daytime refuges of undercut banks and deep un-nymphable pools to feed in the shallows and minnow-crowded riffles. Once freed from the daytime fear of being detected by predators, large trout will move from cover to actively feed throughout the night hours. Several fish studies have shown that brown trout in many waters begin to feed and move about almost exclusively at night through much of the summer. When attempting to stalk and land these midnight monsters, it is important remember the location of deep undercut banks and pools that might have been passed in the day so that you can return to them that evening. Your ears will also help to guide you as you begin to discern the splashing strikes of small trout verses the hollow plunk and sucking that will key you into a truly large fish.

So this summer, get ready to lock and load your 6 weights, load a full magazine of streamers and mouse patterns into your fishing vest, and get ready to do battle with some truly bad browns under a starry filled sky!

By Peter Stichter



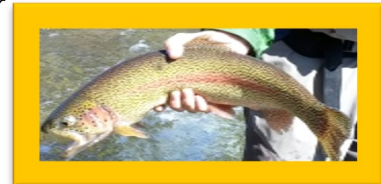
Fishing Stories/ March Madness

Since my return home at the beginning of March I've been fortunate to have participated in the most insane early season fishing I have ever experienced. I lost count of the fish over 20" and the number of flies those fish have taken. Thus, I have named this triumphant pursuit of fish March Madness.

Our journey started in Cheeseman Canyon where we found some nice browns and bows willing to take pegged eggs and pats rubber legs. A few days passed before my casting began to itch for one more cast, which led me to Lair of the Bear on Bear Creek. I couldn't keep my pink San Juan worm in the water as it seemed fish were fighting over the fly as it hit the surface. While catching thirty fish around 8" is fun, the pursuit of one over 20" still weighed heavy on my casting arm. Our pursuit of trophies took us to the Blue River next. It was there where the madness of March fishing exploded. Big rainbows kept our fly rods bent all day, taking mostly size 22 rs2's and rainbow warriors.

During this period of fishing madness we also found nice fish willing to feed on the Pou-dre, Big Thompson, Arkansas, the Taylor and the Dream stream. The moral of the story is your best fishing can happen anywhere anytime by actively following the itch in your casting arm. The madness never ends.

By Weston Niep



Do you have someone that you'd like to include in the Fly of the Month Club? Please sign up on our website www.wamboltwealth.com or email Brittanie.Chambers@wamboltandassoc.com