

# Fly of the Month

**Pattern:** Morrish Hopper

**Size:** 8

**Family Matched:** Terestrials

**Species Matched:** Grasshopper

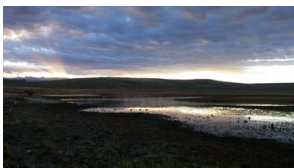
**Life Cycle:** Adult

The big and juicy Morrish Hopper is a proven summer - fall trout slayer! With a body comprised of three layers of foam, this pattern casts a big shadow over feeding trout and is extra buoy-

ant, capable of acting as the lead fly to even the  
**CAST AND BLAST 2015**

By : Weston Niep

3:00 AM Saturday, we awoke to a frosty truck reading 28°F on the temperature gauge. We arrived at the pond we scouted the night before an hour before shooting light. As we began to set our spread of decoys 100's of ducks fled from their roost on the pond. I immediately turned to my hunting partner and said, "It is going to be a great morning", which he replied, "correction it is going to be a great day". What seemed like an eon later, the sun finally breached the mountains to our East enough to identify what flavors of ducks had returned to our spread.

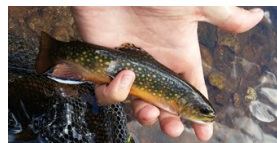


We took two drake gadwall with our first two shots, and then udder chaos broke out. Shotguns rang out like M-16's from the surrounding ponds. Luckily, the birds must have been infatuated with our spread because they started coming in from all directions. At one point we were working 5 or 6 big groups of ducks into the spread making the air so

thick with ducks they couldn't avoid running into each other. Finally he showed the drake mallard I have been pining for since we ended last duck season. Without hesitation I drew a bead on him and folded him at about 40 yards. "I'm good" I said to my hunting partner. He quickly drew on the 2 gad-wall still unsure to flee or stay after my shot. Two shots rang from the gun next to me and the pair fell at our feet ending our first hunt of the weekend.



Having satisfied the itch in our trigger fingers, we quickly packed up the spread and made the drive to the trailhead we planned to hike for some late season high elevation fishing. 4.5 miles and a bucket of sweat later we arrived at a beautiful meandering stream chalk full of 6-10 inch brookies waiting to take whatever fly you threw at them. It was fun catching so many fish so fast, but the fight wasn't enough to satisfy our desire to see a fully folded over fly rod.



With daylight fading quickly we raced back down the mountain to fish bigger water to find those fish to complete our ultimate outdoorsman day. As we approached the lake we saw some fish making large wakes about 20 feet off shore. We rigged the nastiest wooly buggers and streamers we had to try to entice the brutes making all that commotion in front of us. On my second cast a large rainbow slammed my wooly as soon as it hit the water. As soon as I netted a beautiful bow, my hunting partner hooked up on an even nicer fish. "A great day indeed" I exclaimed as I ran down the bank to net his fish.

I encourage all of you to plan your own cast and blast as it really is the ultimate outdoorsman weekend. Just remember to cast far and shoot straight.

**W**ambolt & Associates  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT PARTNERS

## October 2015 Fly Of the Month Club



**A Positive attitude and an open mind are true characteristics of a good fisherman.**

~Kevin VanDam



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# The Fall Fishing Guide

By: Peter Stitcher

The natural world is ruled by cycles. The earth spins, the sun rises, crests, and fades into the west. Pulled by comic strings, the 3rd rock orbits the sun creating a progression of seasons, each with a defined duration. As if heeding the baton of an unseen conductor, summer turns to fall, the leaves turn gold and drop, and waters that act as home to trout become a place of frantic activity.

Creatures of habit, driven by the change in seasons, trout will begin a pattern of behavior each fall that the savvy fly fisher can both anticipate and exploit. Whether you fish the tributaries of the Great Lakes, spring creeks of the Midwest, or drift the big rivers of the Rockies, here are three principals to keep in mind in order to experience greater success on the water this fall.

## Packing on the Pounds

As the water temperatures drop each fall, a primordial thermostat is tripped in the brain of the trout and their drive to consume massive amounts of calories is turned on. Conditioned by generations of trout leading back to the dawn of time, the cold nights of fall trigger a impulse in trout to gorge themselves and pack in the calories before the lean months winter descend. This drive for calories can overshadow a strict adherence to feeding on flies that strictly "match the hatch". Instead, throwing an oversized grasshopper, a massive stonefly nymph where none should be present, or a juicy streamer can produce some of the most explosive strikes when fishing in the fall.



Case in point, I caught this 26" Rainbow last week on a size 10 Pat's Rubber Leg when fishing on a Park County, Colorado lake. The Pat's Rubber Leg is a go-to stonefly nymph pattern which I was fishing on a water without any stoneflies in it!

## What Goes Around Comes Around

Normally pushed around and preyed upon by the more aggressive and hooked jawed Brown and Brook trout, each Fall, the tables are turned and the Rainbow and Cutthroat trout become the top predators in the river! Like a childhood game of Hungry Hippos, the Rainbows and Cutthroat Trout devour the eggs of the spawning Brown and Brook trout as fast as they drop. Trout get tunnel vision for eggs both during and immediately after the spawn, making peg-egg rigs and yarn eggs some of the most productive patterns to fish, bar none.



## Browns Don't Back Down

Let it not be said that Brown trout are pushovers and will let their spawning bed be raided with impunity! Like frat boys drinking Jaeger shots, fall Brown trout move around the room with something to prove. Both immediately prior to and during the spawn, mature Brown trout will aggressive-

Brown trout will aggressively chase any fish or perceived threat that encroaches on their spawning redd. This hot-headed behavior makes these large trout susceptible to lapses in judgment, and particularly vulnerable to streamers. While it isn't ethical or sustainable for the sport to pursue fish actively spawning and sitting on their redds, stripping large crayfish, *muddler*, or *slumpbuster* type patterns in the fall will consistently produce some of the most aggressive strikes and largest fish of the year.

Don't hang up your fly rod and dust off the skis just yet! Some of the best fishing of the year is just beginning to heat up!



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](http://www.wamboltwealth.com) or send an email  
[cindy.alvarez@wamboltandassoc.com](mailto:cindy.alvarez@wamboltandassoc.com)