



PARAKEET SLAB FLY

designed by Dick Empie, 1998
co-authored by Ray Stachelek

The Parakeet Slab Fly was designed to imitate larger baitfish like the Atlantic Blueback Herring. The fly is realistic in both size, shape and color. Hence it's big fish catching ability. Since herring, pogies, and shad have similar silhouettes, only minor changes to the recipe have to be made. It has amazing swimming action in currents. Bass seem to inhale it like to real thing

The Parakeet Fly is a composite of several tying concepts. Tabory's Slab Fly is incorporated into the head of the fly. Ken Abrams color schemes were used from his Razzel Dazzle pattern. And the Rhody Flat Wing style of Bill Peabody is evident. My own personal details were also added to the refinement. Credit should also be given to my son Todd, my number one fishing partner and friend. And the countless friends (at least 3) who have learned to put up with me.

Fly Proportions:

Hook Size	Length of Fly	Real Eye Size
3/0	5" - 5 1/4"	#4
4/0	5 1/2"	#4
6/0	5 3/4"	#5
7/0	6" - 6 1/2"	#5

Recipe:

Hook - Size 3/0 - 7/0 short shank or regular S.S.
Eyes - Stu Dickens Real Eyes, yellow or pearl. Size - #4 & #5
Thread - White Danville, " A " unwaxed
Material - Highlighted with bold-underline print throughout the tying sequence

- Place hook in the vise in the up-right position. Position the Real Eyes slightly forward of the point of the hook, allowing room for deer hair head. See Fig. #1.
- Remove eyes. Where eyes will be positioned, place a drop of Super Glue 5 on shank. Immediately build a foundation of 7- 8 turns of thread. Now attach eyes using a series of figure "8's". The last four wraps should be horizontal to take up the tension of the thread. Whip finish. Add another drop of glue over eyes and thread. Bring thread behind eyes toward the rear of the hook.
- Apply second drop of glue to shank about 1/2" - 3/4" behind eyes. Wrap under body foundation of thread while glue is still wet.

TAIL & TOP WING

- Select an ample amount of long White Bucktail. Hand sort tips evenly. Do not use a hair stacker. {Note: This step is to be repeated for all bucktail ties.} Place 4 to 5 inches past the bend of hook. Tie directly behind and flush to the real eyes making sure hair is on center line. Three loose wraps than tighten will keep hair from splaying. Wrap the complete length of the 1/2" - 3/4" foundation with tight wraps at the same time compressing the butt ends.
- Take (2) long full White Saddle Hackles or neck hackles and tie in one at a time over the previous step so that they lay flat and curve downward. They should extent past the white bucktail about one inch.
- **Note:** - All of the following tying sequences will be tied in the same position.
See Fig. #2
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Pearl Fly Flash over the saddle hackles. Length - Same as bucktail.
- Select (2) long full white saddle hackles with fluff attached. Apply individually with feathers curving upward, tied flat wing style.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of pearl fly flash. Length - Same as bucktail.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Rainbow Glimmer. Length - just short of bucktail.
- Select ample amount of white bucktail. Length - same as before. Tie in on center line above the hook.
- Take 6 - 8 strands of Holographic Silver Flashabou. Length - just short of bucktail.
- Sparse bunch of white bucktail. Length - same as before.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Violet or Lavender Crystal Flash. Length - slightly shorter than bucktail.
- Sparse bunch of Yellow Bucktail. Length - slightly less than the white bucktail.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Rainbow Crystal Flash. Length - slightly shorter than white bucktail.
- Bunch of long Pink Bucktail. Length - same as yellow bucktail. Tie in place.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Olive Fly Flash. Length - slightly shorter than pink bucktail.
- Sparse bunch of long olive bucktail. Length - just shorter than the pink bucktail.
- Place 6 - 8 strands of Black or Peacock Fly Flash. Length - slightly longer than olive bucktail.
- Sparse amount of Dark Blue Bucktail. Length - same as olive bucktail.
- Sparse amount of Bright Supervisor Blue Bucktail, or Silver Doctor Blue. Length - slightly shorter than olive/dark blue bucktail.
- **Note:** - Rotate vise or invert hook (upside down), with barb in the top position.
See Fig. #3

BOTTOM WING & SKIRT

- Tie in, [one on each side of hook], a moderate amount of white bucktail. Length - about 2/3 rds the length of long bucktail. Extend back along the bottom half and the bend of the shank.
- Place another bunch of white bucktail directly on center. Length - slightly shorter than the previous step. Extend past bend of hook by 1/2" - 3/4". Using a bodkin, divide and separate on each side of hook.
- Place a moderate amount of Chartreuse Bucktail along the center of the hook shank and divide using the same method as the previous step. Length - Same as previous step.
- Tie whip finish knot, but do not cut thread. Apply head cement over knot and wraps and allow to dry.
- Tie bunches of White Deer Body Hair [The hollow kind used for spinning] on each side and behind both eyes. Cut ends facing toward the eye of the hook. Tip ends to cover thread on body and

extend slightly over tail hairs. Do not spin. Tie in place.

- **Note: - Rotate vise or invert hook again. Hook should be in normal position.**

See Fig. # 4

- On top, tie in a bunch of Supervisor Blue Deer Body Hair (hollow) behind eyes and over body threads. Same procedure as previous step. Lay hair back and repeat this step twice, adding it in front of previous amount over eyes. Fill in bare spots.
- Add white bunch of deer hair under eyes. Then a second bunch in front of previous amount. Add deer hair to any bald spots or thin areas while keeping thread tight. Figure " 8 " the eyes occasionally to maintain tight wraps of body hair. See Fig. #5
- Start spinning bunches of white body hair in front of eyes. Pack tightly. Add extra hair where needed. Build a full spun head in front of eyes using white body hair at least 1 inch long.
- Wind thread at eye of hook and whip finish. Apply head cement.

Trimming the head See Figs. #6 through #8

- Lay scissors, front to back on side of fly. Using the eye of the hook and the fly's eye as support, Trim sides flat. See illustration below. Trim in front of and behind the fly's eyes 1/2" - 3/4". In shaping the profile of the head, trim from rear of the hook toward the eye. Curve and shape head to baitfish shape. See illustration. Round over edges of profile.
- Use chartreuse thread and wrap 8-10 turns. Whip finish and epoxy with 5 Minute Devcon.

Your creation is now complete. Your first fly should have taken you well over an hour. With some proficiency you can get it down to 45 minutes. This seems like a long time. But you have to consider the reward of a trophy bass. It will be well worth your time. Use a #20 tippet and try to fish it deep.

Just remember , "Bird is the word." This bird sings a pretty song , but only when you drown it. Now Hook em... Don-no!

Dick Empie

Figure #1
Position of eyes.

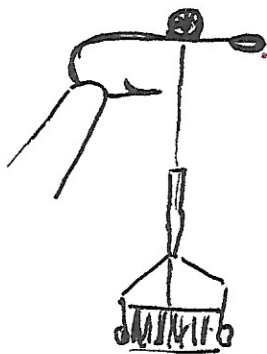


Figure #2
Body/Tail
All Tied in behind
eyes.

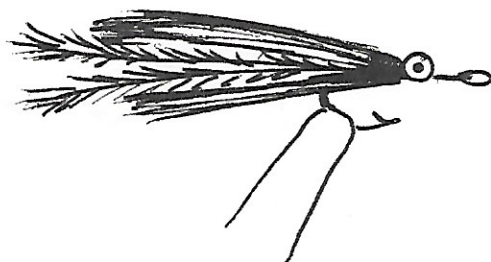


Figure #3
Throat

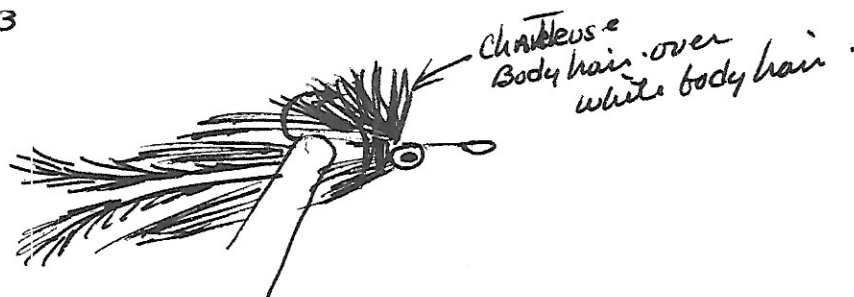


Figure #4
Building the head

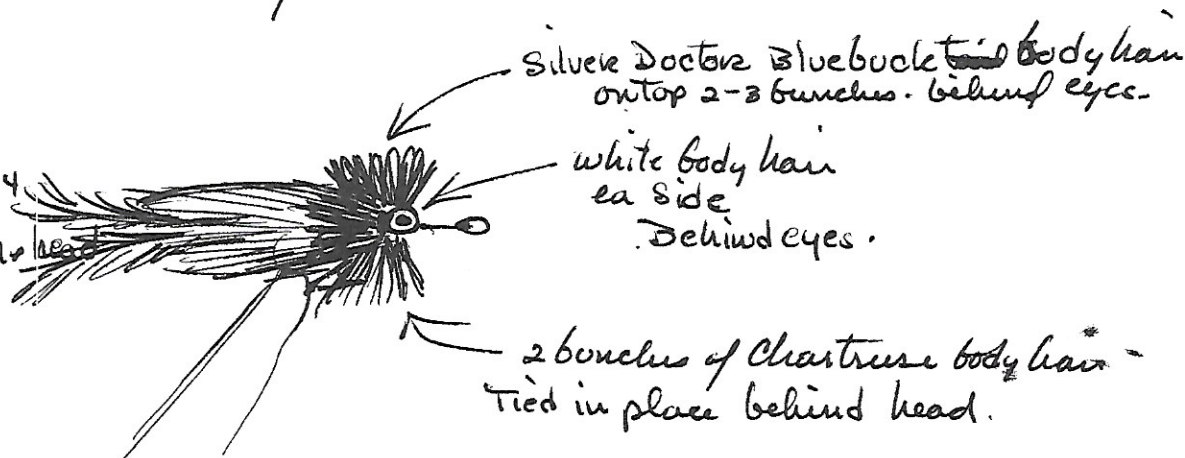


figure #5
Spin head & pack tight



figure #6
Side view:
Trim.

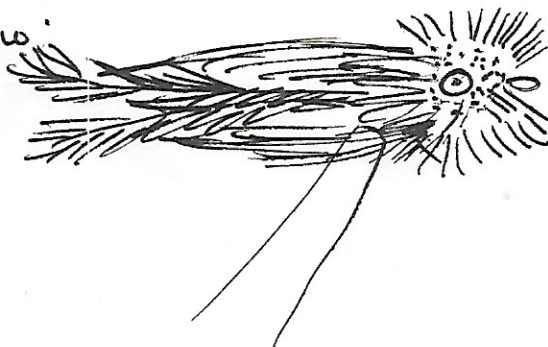


figure #7
front view



figure #8
Trimmed Side view

