Western Fly Patterns/Recipes

Two of the days are based on two specific rigs that I used for the majority of my fishing in Colorado. The final day is two patterns that I used frequently but not on a specific rig. I specified specific hooks but anything that is fairly similar or more cost effective will work. As long as it is relatively close in shape and type. I also specified thread, but it does not matter. I know last year we mostly used black and red and that will work for all of these. \sim Em Reeves

13 February 2025 (Hopper Dropper Rig)

Chubby Chernobyl

Hook: size 6 TMC 5262 Nymph and Streamer hook (any 2x heavy, 2x long down eye nymph or streamer hook will work)

Thread: UTC 140 or 6/0 waxed thread (color doesn't matter, ideally, we won't see the thread)

Tail: Krystal Flash pearl or UV tan

Body: Ice Dub UV tan

Foam: 3mm tan foam (I also will use 2mm foam with a slightly different technique because I get my foam

from the craft store)

Wing: White EP Fibers

Legs: Rubber legs, any color (I usually try to match the dubbing)

Rainbow Warrior Nymph

Hook: size 14-22 TMC2457 Caddis pupa, Nymph Hook (probably best to go larger for class, even a 12 will fish well on the Mad River)

Thread: UTC 70 – Red (can use any color again, red is nice for the hotspot but for class black is fine)

Bead: matching size tungsten bead silver (if using size 12 hook, use 2.8 or 3.2mm)

Tail: Pheasant tail fibers

Body/Wingcase: Pearl Tinsel – Large

Thorax: Wapsi Sow Scud Dubbing – Rainbow

20 February 2025 (Double Nymph Rig)

Zebra Midge (yes, this is an easy pattern but it is essential for western tailwaters)

Hook: size 16-22 2X short emerger hook

Bead: size matched silver bead

Thread: Black (red, purple, green, whatever color works. I've used them all)

Rib: small silver wire

Copper John Nymph: This is very material intense fly but it is easily one of the best out west. For class purposes, UV resin for the thorax will not be done.

Hook: size 12 TMC 3761 Nymph & Wet Fly

Bed: Gold 1/8" bead

Thread: UTC 70 Black

Tails: Brown Goose Biots

Lead: 0.015 or 0.02 lead wire

Body: Medium copper wire

Thorax: Peacock herl or eye

Wing Case: Thin Skin – Black

Flash: Medium tinsel – pearl or really any color

Legs: Partridge (we can skip this if we think it is too advanced)

27 February 2025 (Variety Option)

Slump Buster

Hook: size 10 3X long 1X strong down eye streamer hook

Thread: Black UTC 70

Weight: 4.8mm brass cone

Body: UTC sparkle braid – green, red, chartreuse, silver (whatever color is available)

Tail and Head: Pine squirrel strip in olive

Sparkle Dun Emerger

Hook: size 14-22 TMC 100 (down eye 1XF dry fly, size 14 for class)

Thread: UTC 70 or 8/0 black thread

Wing: Bleached coastal deer hair (goal is a light-colored deer or elk hair)

Shuck: Rusty brown or brown z-lon

Body: Pale yellow superfine dubbing