

Luscious Leech

Recipe :



Hook: Daiichi 2461 size 1/0 or other large streamer hook 3x1 or longer

Tail: Black or Purple Marabou

Body: Another Black or Purple Marabou feather, wound forward

Hackle: Schlappen Feather, wound forward. Before tying in the schlappen, tie in some grape or sunburst flashabou at the front of the hook. With each turn of the schlappen forward, bring some of the flashabou back, forming a loose wing.

Collar: Claret ringneck pheasant rump feather, or large mallard flank.

Head: fluorescent estaz or egg yarn.

There are very few flies that work everywhere for steelhead. However, egg sucking leech patterns are the exception to this rule. They work throughout the Midwest and in the Pacific Northwest as well. Smaller egg sucking leech patterns are effective while bounced along the river bottom. This is particularly true in the spring in proximity to gravel stretches.

Large leech patterns, such as this one, are at their best while swung as traditional wet flies. When it comes to leech patterns, I recommend using bright and flashy flies in the fall. Good flash colors are green, bullfrog, sunburst, and copper. As you head into winter, reduce the amount of flash in the fly and don't hesitate to make them big. Leeches are good when tied black or purple. Purple is good as a fall or spring color while black is more all purpose. Though colored as attractor flies, the best leech patterns will have the shape and profile of a baitfish while in the water.



Fly Courtesy of:

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