

Funky Bunker

June 27, 2003

Funky Bunker

Well, it hasn't been the most pleasant of spring seasons, but the stripers are in, and they don't mind the rainy weather. There are some really scary-sized fish hanging around the jetties, inlets, tidal estuaries, wherever. They want big flies. Smaller flies will take the schoolies, but not the big boys.

Here's one I've had a lot of luck with. It's very similar to a well-known pattern, the Bulky Bunker. I call my version Uncle Dickie's Funky Bunker.

Here's the dressing:

Hook	Typical saltwater model. I like a bit more length, so I'm using the Dai-ichi X472, 3XL, size 2/0.
Thread	Heavy white. I'm using Uni-Stretch.
Rear Body/Tail	Big, webby white hackles. I use two spooned bunches of at least three feathers each.
Mid-Body	White bucktail, top and bottom.
Highlight	Pearl Flashabou.
Stripe	Grizzly saddle, plain or dyed yellow, chartruese, blue, or green.
Back, First Layer	Bucktail; lavender, pale purple, soft blue, etc. maybe mix several of those colors.
Back, Second Layer	Peacock herl in strands.
Head	Stick-on eyes, coated with clear Epoxy.

Tying Steps:



Step 1. Wrap a substantial thread layer. Prepare the two bunches of feathers by stripping back the butt ends, but leave some of the soft, fuzzy stuff in place. Tie in the bunches concave-to-concave.



Step 2. Wrap forward a little and tie on plenty of bucktail, top and bottom. I use two layers on each side.

Funky Bunker continued



Step 3. Tie 8 or 10 strands of Flashabou down each side.



Step 4. Tie a saddle feather down each side.



Step 5. Tie on the pale purple or whatever bucktail on top.



Step 6. Tie on the peacock herl.



Step 7. The eyes and an Epoxy coating completes the fly.

For other Fly Tying Projects, please visit my website at www.dicktalleur.com. You will also find information about past and upcoming guided fishing trips, my books and instructional videotapes, recommended products, and upcoming classes and shows.



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