

Jiggy CDC Flashback

By Steve Cullen

This is an adaptation of a fly I found at charliesflyboxinc.com. On their site it's called a "CDC Pheasant Tail" which they shortened from the original name given it by its creator, Randall Kauffman. The original name was the "Bead Head CDC Flashback Pheasant Tail". Charlies thought that was way too long.

My one small change is tying it on a jig hook. This guy is SUPER heavy and I felt like it would be beneficial to make it somewhat less likely to snag bottom.

The CDC soft hackle collar imitates emerging wings and when wet produces a lot of movement.

While I used natural colored materials, this pattern can easily be changed up by using different colored Pheasant Tail for the abdomen and tail.



Recipe:

Hook: Firehole Stick 523 #14 competition or your favorite 3xl jig hook. (can be tied on #10-16)

Bead: 1/8" gold Tungston (Oversized bead works better and eliminates the need for slotted)

Weight: .015 lead free wire

Thread: 135 Denier (I used red for a hot spot)

Tail: Pheasant Tail (color choice up to you)

Rib: small copper wire

Flashback: Pearl Flashabou

Abdomen: Pheasant Tail

Wingcase: Pearl Mini Flat Braid

Thorax: Peacock Herl twisted with fine copper wire

Collar: Natural DunCDC wrapped as a soft hackle collar

1. Put bead on hook, small hole first and mount in vice. Take about 10 to 12 turns of lead and push them forward to the bead. start your thread behind the lead and build up a ramp at the back of the lead.



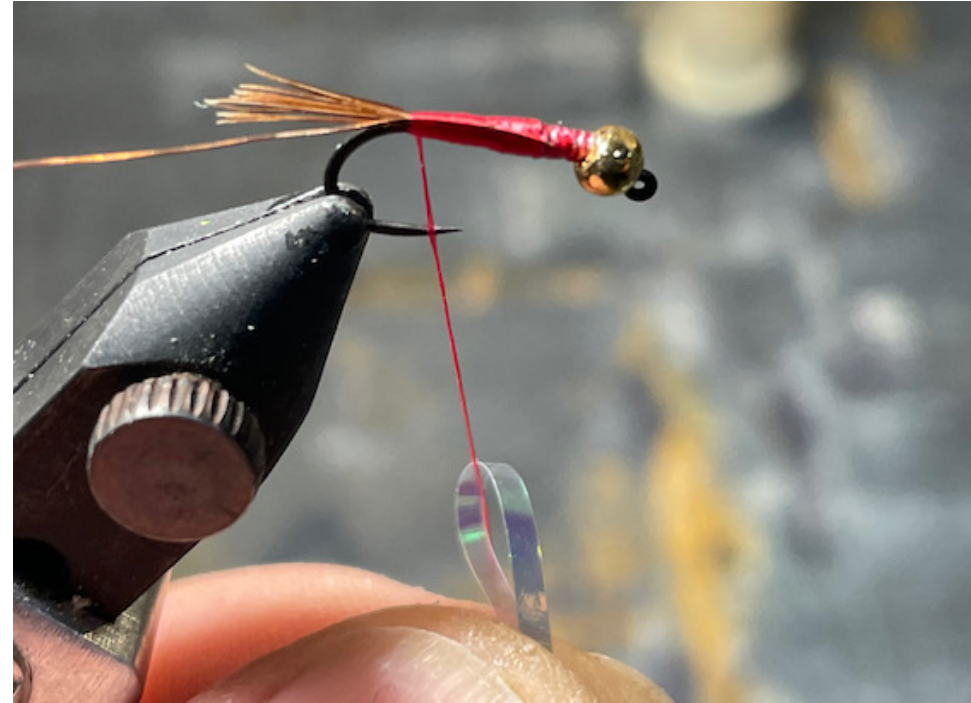
2. Run your thread over the lead to the bead and back again to secure the lead and smooth it somewhat. Don't overdo it as this fly can get undesirably thick. Run thread back to the hook bend.



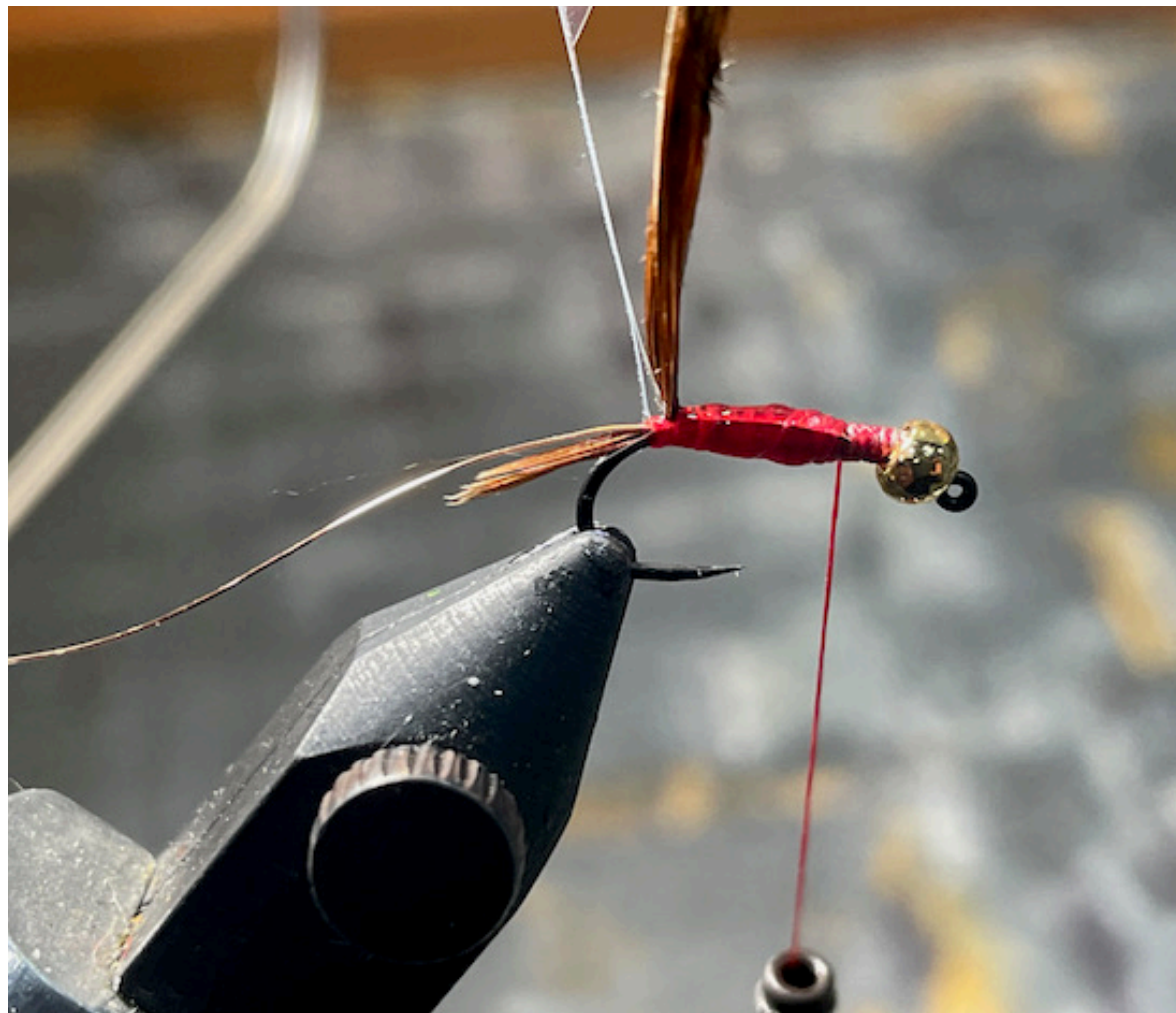
3. Take about 10 fibers from your Pheasant Tail and even up the tips. Measure your clump of fibers, about half a hook shank in length. Tie in the tail fibers at the hook bend on top of the hook and wrap the fibers in, taking smooth, tight wraps. Trim the fibers about 1/16" behind the bead.



4. Tie in a piece of small wire and continue thread wraps back to the hook bend. cut a piece of flashaboo about 3" long. "bend" it around your thread so it's doubled and tie it in with one or two wraps on the top of the hook at the bend. Wrap the thread forward to about 1/3 shank length.



5. Clip off another clump of Pheasant Tail, about 7 or 8 fibers, and tie it in, wrapping back over the fibers to the hook bend then return your thread back to the 1/4 point.



6. You can put some head cement on your thread wraps for durability if you wish, then wrap the Pheasant tail forward, trying not to twist the fibers, then tie them off with a few tight wraps and clip off the butt ends of the fibers.



7. Pull the two pieces of flashaboo forward, making sure they are centered on top, over the pheasant tail abdomen and tie them off.



8. Counter-wrap the wire forward over the abdomen taking about 6 or 7 turns and tie off at the same point as the flashaboo.



9. Clip or helicopter off the remaining wire and clip the flashaboo. Run the thread forward to the bead and tie in a piece of flat braid on top of the hook shank. Run wraps over the flat braid back to about a 1/3 point to start the wing case. Then run the thread up to just short of the bead.



10. Tie in a piece of FINE wire at the back of the wing case. Tie in a clump of 5 or 6 pieces of Peacock Herl at the back of the wing case and wrap the thread forward to the bead.



11. Twist both the herl AND the wire between your thumb and forefinger to form a “rope”. It will look a bit like a small pipe cleaner. Wrap this “rope” forward and tie it off just a bit behind the bead. Clip off the remainder using the part of your scissors nearest the pivot. (the back). The wire isn’t particularly tough but you don’t want to unnecessarily dull the business part of your scissors.



12. Bring the flat braid over the peacock thorax keeping it centered on the top of the fly and tie off behind the bead, pull the flat braid back and take a few wraps in front to help lock it in, then trim.



13. Select your CDC and pull the fibers off of one side. Tie in the tip so the remaining fibers are turned outward and oriented toward the back of the fly. Take just a couple of wraps to form the collar, tie off the butt end and trim. Wet your fingers and pull back the CDC fibers. Take a few more wraps to direct the fibers rearward. Whip finish. A little head cement here would be a good idea. Just be careful not to get any on your CDC. I clipped the CDC fibers so none were longer than the overall length of the fly.

