

Tying Bench – Sandy Moret’s Cracked Crab As Tied by Layne (Smitty) Smith



Moret’s Cracked Crab Fly is a very effective permit fly and bonefish fly in the lower Florida Keys. It is a good choice for both permit and bonefish when fly fishing on the lighter bottomed flats.

Materials:

Hook: Gamakatsu SC 15 or Tiemco 811S 1 to 1/0
Thread: Chartreuse Flatwaxed Nylon
Tail: Splayed Grizzly Hackles (or Ginger Hackles)
Mouth: Pearl Estaz
Eyes: Mono Eyes or large plastic bead chain
Body: EP Fibers Tied Merkin Style (Baboon Style)
Weight: Lead dumbbell
Weedguard: 20# Fluorocarbon

Tying Sequence:

Step 1: Tie in base wrap of chartreuse thread.

Step 2: Tie in hackles (splayed so they curve out).

Step 3: Tie in 3 or 4 wraps of Estaz (making sure to stroke back after each wrap)

Step 4: Tie in plastic bead chain eyes with figure of eight wraps.

Step 5: Tie in small sections of EP fibers Merkin style (about 4 or 5 sections should do).

Step 6: Tie in lead dumbbell eyes again with figure of eight wraps.

Step 7: Tie in weedguard in “V” shaped position to protect hook point; then whip finish.

Step 9: Trim EP fibers using lead eyes and plastic bead chain as a guide (fibers should be narrower at lead eyes and wider at plastic eyes to create a crab body shape).