

# Smitty's Fly Box: Summertime Baitfish Fly



Layne (Smitty) Smith

*This is a good match-the-hatch fly for schooling baitfish we see in late summer. You can call it an inshore slam fly.*



Summertime Baitfish Fly

## Materials

Hook: Daiichi  
Saltwater size 4

Thread: Danville Flat-waxed Nylon white

Weight: Silver bead 3.5mm

Tail: Two Whiting Hen Saddle feathers, ginger. 1-1/2 inches of small pearl Mylar tubing

Body: Ice Dubbing UV cinnamon

Hackle: Deer Creek Glis'n'Glint, Pearl/White

Eyes: 3mm 3D eyes

Head: Flymen Fish Mask size 4

Coating: Solarez UV Flex

**Tail Preparation. See instructions under photo**

## Tying Sequence:

1. Slip the bead onto the hook. Cover two thirds of the hook with a thread base.
2. Tie your tail down firmly on the hook and add a drop of glue when you have centered it on the hook shank. That will secure the tail.
3. Make a dubbing loop where the tie-in point of the tail ends. Dub the loop sparingly and wrap it to form a body. Don't brush the body yet.
4. Slide the silver bead down against the body and wrap a little thread to secure it. Add some glue or varnish to reinforce it. The weight sits 3 to 4 mm behind the hook eye. Make a new dubbing loop with sparse Glis'N'Glint in a hair hackle manner. Wrap it on pulling the fibers towards the tail. Form a small head.
5. Now brush through the dubbing. Use a dubbing needle to loosen the fibers.
6. Attach eyes to indentations in Fish Mask and slide mask onto fly. Tie a thread dam in front of mask whip finish and cut thread. Pull the fibers slightly back and apply Solarez Flex over the eyes and the gaps on the top and bottom of Fish Mask. Cure. Trim the fibers if they are too long.



## Tail Preparation

*Strip two hen saddle feathers leaving the tip and the stem. Put the feathers back to back and run the stems through the Mylar tubing. Add a drop of Solarez UV Flex on each side where the tube touched the stems and cure. Clip into the feathers forming a "V". Rather cut too little than too much. It can be adjusted later. I make several tails while watching TV.*

*Smitty*