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# FLY OF THE MONTH

## WHITLOCK FOX SQUIRREL

Hook:	TMC 3761 or any 1X long 2X heavy nymph hook - size 10 - 18
Thread:	Black 8/0 or 6/0
Tail:	Red Fox Squirrel guard hairs
Rib:	Small gold oval tinsel or gold wire
Body:	Half red fox squirrel fur and half tan antron mixed
Hackle:	Brown partridge
Thorax:	Red fox squirrel fur guard hairs



1. Wrap the hook shank with a layer of thread. If you weight the fly, tie in the lead wire covering the center 3/5 of the hook shank. Cut a small bunch of hair and guard fur from a fox squirrel skin. Remove some of the under fur. Measure the hair half the length of the shank and tie it in at the bend. Cut off the excess tail. Tie in the ribbing.
2. Dub the body. I use a premixed dubbing - Dave Whitlock's SLF Red Fox Squirrel Nymph - Abdomen and SLF Red Fox Squirrel Nymph - Thorax for the body and thorax. Taper the body two thirds to three fourths the length of the shank. Wrap the ribbing over the body in 4 to 5 evenly spaced turns and tie off.
3. Dub the thorax. It should be darker and fatter than the body.
4. Tie in a brown partridge or a brown hen saddle feather and make one or two turns in front of the thorax. Trim the excess. Wrap a neat thread head and whip finish. This fly should be tied buggy. If needed use your bodkin to pick out some of the dubbing.

The ribbing and the hackle can be omitted on small flies - size 16 or smaller.

I like the fly tied "in the round" so it looks the same regardless of where it is in the drift. It can also be tied with a bead head.

In Dave Hughes' book "Trout Flies" Dave writes that he fishes this pattern mostly in sizes 14 and 16 without the ribbing and the hackle.

This is the last of the flies Dave Hughes refers to as his "Basic Four Searching Nymphs."

I must give credit to Dave Hughes and his fine book "Trout Flies" for helping me with the last four "Flies of the Month".

Tom Smith

