

Fly of the Month: The F-C Sand Shrimp

By Bob Korose

The F-C Sand Shrimp was created by Ed Story of Feather Craft in St Louis Missouri. He was a frequent visitor to the Gulf Coast and claimed that this was the only inshore fly pattern you needed and was his favorite fly for redfish. He also used it to catch speckled trout, flounder, Spanish mackerel, ladyfish and more. Ed commented that "Everything hits this one". Matt Wegener introduced this fly to us back in October 2012 as the Fly of the Month. He commented that "many days on the Fort Pickens grass flats the F-C Sand Shrimp simply out fished everything in my box". Many in our club have had success with it in both the bay and in the surf. Like a Clouser Minnow this fly can now be tied using newer synthetic materials rather than craft fur or bucktail and in many other color combinations depending on conditions. We'll tie this one in a tan and white (red eyes) for over sandy bottoms, in olive and tan (yellow eyes) for fishing over the grass flats, and in chartreuse and white (silver eyes) for in the Gulf.

Materials:

Hook: Mustad 34007 (Mustad S71-SAP-TX) Size #2

Thread: Flat waxed nylon 210 Denier color White or Hot Red

Body: Pearl Chenille or Estaz in colors Root Beer, Pearl or others, Size medium

Eyes: Dumbell eyes (small or medium) Colors red, yellow or silver (as desired)

Tail: FTD Water Silk (or other synthetic fibers) Color (as desired)

Wing: FTD Water Silk (or other synthetic fibers) Color (darker than tail) (as desired)

Flash: Copper, Pearl or other color Krystal Flash (as desired)

Markers: Red and Black or Green Sharpies

		
1. Start by wrapping a thread base, then tie in dumbell eyes 1/8 inch or less behind the hook eye. (No material will be tied on in front of the eyes).	2. Tie on the tail at the base of the hook. It should extend back 2½ times the hook length.	3. For the body, tie in 3 inches of the chenille at the hook base and wrap forward to base of the dumbell eyes and tie off.
		
4. Turn the fly over in the vice and tie in 4-6 strands of Krystal flash right behind the dumbell eyes. Then tie in the wing in the same place. Bring the thread forward of the eyes and make a nice head and whip finish. Seal with UV or head cement.	5. Use red and black permanent markers to make ¼ inch bands on the tail, starting with red, followed by black. The width of the band is similar to the width of a standard Sharpie marker, so simply press the felt tip against the tail to achieve the correct width of the band.	6. After a ¼ inch gap with no marker, then continue again with red followed by black and another gap. Complete three full color patterns on the tail and your new fly is ready.