Tying Bench - Summer Tides by Layne "Smitty" Smith

At last year's CCA banquet, Robert Fischer showed some flies tied and donated by Cas Summers for the CCA auction. One fly in particular really intrigued Smitty. Bendbacks have always been a very successful inshore pattern and this one looked like a real winner. It took a lot of detective work for Smitty to match the colors and materials (with a couple of substitutions) for the fly and he added a "hot spot" (tag) with some red holographic Flashabou. I'll be tying plenty of these Summer Tides, I'm convinced this fly will be a killer; not only on the flats but also in the backcountry.ED

Materials:

- Hook: Eagle Claw 245N, Mustad C70S D bendback style size 1 2/0
- Thread: Black Flat-waxed Nylon
- Tag: Red Holographic Flashabou
- Body: Holographic Gold Body Braid (or regular Gold, Copper or Pearl your choice)
- Underwing: Badger Hair
- Flash: Polarflash Chartreuse (Hedron #2016)
- Wing: Russian Black Squirrel Tail (or Black Bucktail)

Tying Instructions:

- 1. Tie in Red Flashabou using 2 or 3 turns for tag.
- 2. Tie in Body Braid and wrap forward to bendback portion of hook, secure and cut off remainder.
- 3. Invert hook in vise (if you have a rotary vise, just turn over) and tie in Badger Hair 1 ½ to 2 times hook shank length.
- 4. Tie in Chartreuse Flashabou using V-style method to distribute it evenly over top and sides of Badger.
- 5. Tie in Squirrel Tail (or Bucktail) wing. Keep it sparse.
- 6. Tie a nice head and coat with favorite head cement. (You can add small eyes if you like before cementing.)











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