

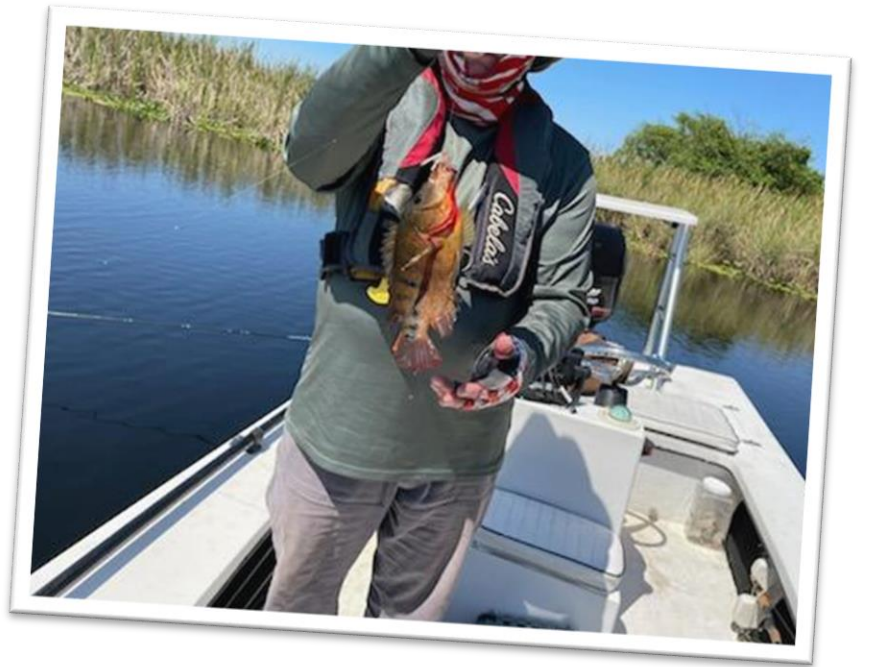


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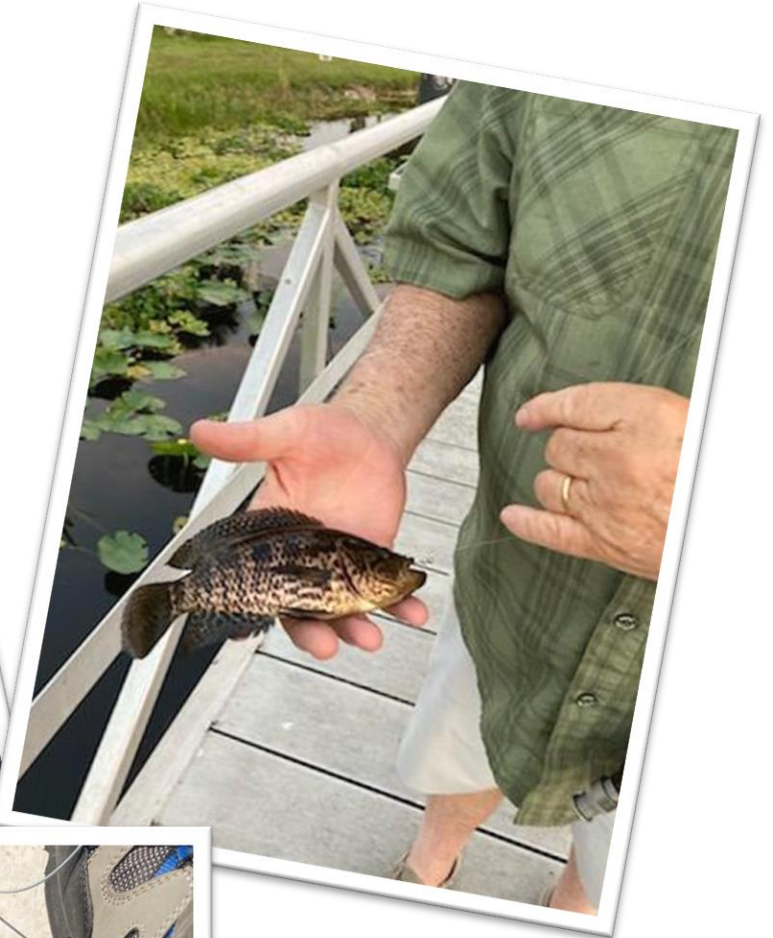
April 2024

South Florida – Tamiami Trail



South Florida – Tamiami Trial
Joe Sherer's power point presentation

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rvgkWyBgRi46c6Zj0EA4dUtdvwUKCyMH/view?usp=sharing>



Alligator Alley Presentation by Joe Serer



Big Willy



Origin: Craig Riendeau

This is my version of Craig Riendeau's "Big Willy," the larger variation of his Wee Willie Wiggler. I have been unable to find his instructions for this larger version. The fly was designed primarily for largemouth bass and a 7 or 8 wt. rod. A weed guard can be added for use in weedy cover.

Hook: 60- or 90-degree jig hook sizes 1 to 2/0; such as Gamakatsu 60412, Umpqua XS506H, Eagle Claw 413-2 or equivalent

Bead: 3/16" brass bead; gold, silver or red

Thread: 3/0 Uni-Thread or equivalent; color to match the soft plastic or the hackle

Tail: 2-1/4" tail cut from a soft plastic worm or other bass bait, Z-Man soft plastics such as the Z-Man Finesse Shadz 4" or Z-Man SMH Worm work well

Collar: rooster saddle hackle

Weed guard (optional): 30 lb. Scientific Anglers Absolute Hard Mono or equivalent

Adhesives: Zap resin, UV light -A-Gap Medium CA+, Loctite Superglue or equivalent; head cement or UV resin

Note: DO NOT store Z-Man plastics in contact with other soft plastics baits! They will melt into and destroy other soft plastics.

Big Willy – cont.

Colors: suggested colors (Z-Man soft plastics) “Green Pumpkin/Blue” tail with black or fluorescent chartreuse hackle, “Junebug” tail with black hackle, and “Shiner” tail with red or fluorescent yellow hackle

Instructions

1. (Optional) Crush hook barb.
2. Sharpen hook if needed.
3. Thread on bead, smaller hole toward hook eye.
4. Place hook in vise, point down.
5. Start thread at the hook bend and wrap forward to the bead, forming a thread base on the shank. Secure thread in place with a half hitch behind the bead.
6. Remove hook from vise and measure the shank length on the tail to determine where to pierce through the tail to allow the tail to lie straight and flat on the shank. Thread the tail onto the hook bend, keeping the hook centered along the central axis of the tail.
7. Pierce the tail for the hook point's exit but leave the tail on the hook bend. Brush on a thin coat of the Zap-A-Gap Medium CA+ or Loctite Superglue onto the thread, stopping about one bead width behind the bead. With the glue in place slide the tail onto the shank over the thread. The forward end of the tail should stop one bead width short of the bead, leaving about a 3/16" gap for the weed guard and hackle.
8. Return hook to vise, point down.
9. (Optional) Double post style weed guard. Using about 4" of the hard mono, shape weed guard by folding mono in half to form a "V", with pliers bend about 3/16" of the point of the "V" downward about 60 degrees and flatten mono slightly. Straddle hook shank with the "V," with "legs" extending downward. Tie in by trapping "V" point and binding it to hook shank with thread wraps. Bend "legs" to shape and trim to length; these should extend just past the hook point.
10. Select a wide saddle hackle feather with barb lengths about 1x - 1.5x the hook gap. Tie in the saddle hackle by the tip in front of the tail, palmer forward about 6 to 8 wraps to form a collar. Tie off hackle behind bead and trim off excess feather.
11. Whip finish behind the bead.
12. Use head cement or UV resin to coat the thread wraps behind the bead. Cure UV resin.

Listen to David Lambert on Fly Rod Casting

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZoiKxOnOsqRhj08dXrsOFnlaqWZtyZ1O/view?usp=sharing>

FCFF Members – Fish Pictures

