

# Fly Pattern Sheet - Kulik Leech

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Hooks: #6 or #8 2XL Nymph,  
or 3XL Streamer  
Thread: 140 Denier, black  
Tail: Rabbit strip, from the body, olive  
Rear Body: Rabbit strip, olive  
Articulation: Fireline, fly line backing, or  
similar type of line  
Front Body: Rabbit strip, black  
Weight: Lead barbells, at the head



Notes: I'm not sure of the proper name for this fly, but it was our most productive pattern on the Kulik river in early June 2016. It came out of the fly bins they tie up for their clients. The head guide wasn't stretching the truth when he said it worked well. I'm sure it imitates a small sculpin and was most productive when fished with a slow twitching retrieve near the bottom. My name for this fly is a nod to the Kulik Lodge in Bristol Bay.



We're using a #6 3XL hook, which will make this fly longer than the original from Kulik Lodge. Attach your thread and lay down a base from front to back.



Separate the hair from a Zonker strip and tie in at the rear with four very tight wraps. Lift the strip and bring your thread forward.



Wrap the rabbit strip forward with touching wraps. Separate the hair at the tie in and use four very tight wraps to secure. Trim the excess, half-hitch, and whip finish.



For a down-turned eye hook, loop the articulation line around the top of the fly and then feed the ends of the line through the bottom of the hook eye as shown.



Tighten the articulation line with the loop just behind the hook eye, but on the thread head.



Put your second hook in the vise, attach your thread, and lay down a base. Tie down the articulation line at the rear of the shank with a minimum of distance between the two hooks.



Bind the articulation line down by wrapping forward, keeping it on top of the shank. At the front, feed the line ends through the hook eye from top to bottom.



Tighten the line as much as possible and bind to the bottom of the shank while wrapping rearward. Trim any excess.



Pull back the hair from the "bottom" of a Zonker strip, and tie in, hair down, at the back of the shank. Bring your thread forward to approximately 1/4 shank behind the hook eye.



Wrap the rabbit strip up the shank with touching turns. Tie off, clip the excess, and wrap a base for the barbell eyes.



Attach the barbell eyes with cross wraps and Figure-8 wraps on top of the shank. Half-hitch and whip finish. Tying the eyes on top of the shank will cause the fly to rotate over when fished. This will keep the hook point up and hopefully out of some snags.



This version has chenille wrapped around the barbell. This adds a little bulk to the head of the fly. Consider adding egg colored chenille to patterns you'd be using in the fall once the salmon have started laying eggs.

Many places in Alaska require a single hook on a fly, so you'll need to cut one of the hooks off with cutters. Do this with extreme care, hooks are tempered and will pop and fly when they are cut. Keep the cutters facing down and always avert your eyes.

There are two schools of thought on which hook should be cut.

One is that you should cut the front hook as fish have a tendency to "nip" the back of the fly, especially a longer pattern that is fished on the swing. This is why stinger hooks are built into so many streamer patterns.

The second is that fish take sculpins and most bait fish head first, so the front hook should stay. The front hook also gives you the most direct connection as the leader is tied to the front hook eye.

On a smaller pattern such as this one, I don't know that it makes much difference; only your personal fishing experience will tell you for sure.