



“STILLWATER NYMPH”

February 2007 Fly of the Month

Tied and Photographed by
Robert Rountree

MATERIALS

HOOK: Size 10-16, 2X or 3X long nymph.

THREAD: Olive or Black 6/0.

WEIGHT: 6 wraps 0.015 lead-free wire at the head.

TAIL: Olive, burnt orange (or rust) marabou (length of the shank and sparse.

HACKLE: Reddish orange dyed grizzly saddle hackle tied in tip first (3-4 turns).

BODY: Olive dubbing, seal sub-dubbing, ostrich herl, hares ear mask or marabou.

RIB: Red or copper color wire (Sm. To Med. Diameter).

WING CASE: Marabou tied down full length over the hook

HEAD: Olive when un-weighted & black when weighted.

This fly is pretty straight forward to tie!

I've found it works well out on our local lakes and reservoirs to catch trout. I've only been fly fishing for 3 years now, and Denny's books helped my learning curve immensely for lake fishing. I hope he will forgive me for reprinting his fly recipe out of his book, *Fly Fishing Stillwaters for Trophy Trout*. I'd suggest tying these in olive, and burnt orange (or rust) colors. I'm mainly fishing size 2XL 14 & 16. Fish with intermediate sink or floating line. Try various slow 4-6 inch pulls or slow hand twist retrieve. This fly was responsible for one of those 30+ fish days at Fuller Lake last year.

Tying Instructions

1. Smash barb, mount hook in standard fashion, and wrap lead-free wire at head. (Photo 1 at right)



Photo 1

2. Secure lead-free wire in place with thread, and wrap back to standard tie-in position at the barb. Use pinch technique to mount sparse tail (at least length of shank and maybe a bit longer). Don't trim off remaining marabou yet. (Photo 2 at left)



Photo 2

3. Fold remaining marabou back over tail on top of hook shank, and secure with 2-3 wraps of thread. (Photo 3 at right)



Photo 3

4. Tie in copper wire, and prepped grizzly hackle (tip first). (Photo 4 at left)



Photo 4

5. Dub the body, and leave yourself enough room at the head to tie stuff off and wrap a head later on. (Photo 5 at right)



Photo 5

6. Rib the body with the copper wire and then wrap the grizzly saddle hackle 3-4 turns to the end of the dubbing. Secure with thread. You can do this in reverse order, if you prefer, for improved fly longevity. Use scissors and trim top grizzly hackle flat to ease pulling remaining marabou over body in the next step as pictured here. (Photo 6 at left)



Photo 6

7. Pull remaining length of marabou over top of body, and keep centered. Rotating your vise a little here can help ensure you have marabou centered. Secure with thread, and now you can trim off marabou. (Photo 7 at right)



Photo 7

8. Whip finish a nice head. Time for some final cosmetics. Tilt your scissors parallel to side of fly at an approximate 45 degree angle, and trim grizzly hackle off both sides of the fly. If your legs are too long in relation to hook gap, as mine were (compare photo #6 with #8 here), you can trim them off now. Use dubbing needle and pick out some dubbing to make fly more buggy looking. Now you can cement the head, and you're done as pictured at left.



Done!

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