

OSPREY FLY BOX

CONE FLY

contributed by Rick Jones

While fishing to a large feeder on the Bow River in Alberta and having difficulty in getting this indignant brown to rise my partner yelled "try a cone fly about size 16".

Now, I am a fly nut. I'm always looking for new fish catching patterns and have fished a multitude of patterns. "What's a cone fly?" I fired back sheepishly.

Coming up behind me, he handed me a minute pattern with a white foam back. "not much to it" I remarked. "Try it you'll be surprised" I was. On the third cast I hooked the 22 inch brown.

The cone fly is the brain child of Gary LaFontaine. Gary died a few years ago from cancer, but what he has left behind is a vast

amount of fly patterns that are different. His book "Trout Flies" is a volume of these flies. The Cone Fly is on page 110.

Gary spent a lot of time under water, watching his flies and how fish reacted to them. I read his book (*noted above*) from cover to cover. Every time I came to read about another pattern my mind said "nope, not a great pattern" until I read the description and why it works. I have used many of his designs and have never been disappointed.

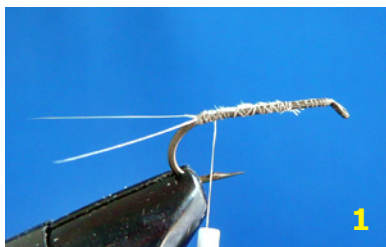
The Cone Fly is an emerger or a still born. Fish in the film when mayflies are hatching or the hatch is slowing down. I have used it in small sizes only as most river mayflies can be small.

MATERIALS



- Hook: Standard Dry Fly, Mustad 94840, TMC 100
Size: #6 to #14
- Thread: Colour to match
- Tail: Emerger - Split Hackle fibers
Cripple - White Sparkle Yarn
- Back: Thin Packing Foam
- Body: Synthetic Seal's Fur or equivalent
Colour to match hatch
- Hackle: Rear - Rooster
Front: - Mallard

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



- Debarb the hook.
- Lay down a thread base.



- Emerger**
- Tie in four hackle tips and split them for tails.
- Tie in the foam strip. Width to match the hook size.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)



Cripple

Tie in sparkle yarn.

Tie in the foam strip. Width to match the hook size.



Dub the body.



Pull the foam forward to form the back and tie down.
Not too tight to leave a slight loop.



Tie in the rooster hackle.

Wrap rooster hackle with hackel fibers flowing back.



Strip one side of the mallard hackle.

Tie in mallard hackle in front of rooster hackle.

Wrap the mallard hackle with fibers flowing back.

The Finished Fly



Cone Fly ~ Emerger

Whip finish.

Add a drop of head cement.

The Finished Fly



Cone Fly ~ Cripple