

OSPREY FLY BOX

CAHILL TUBE FLY #1

by Dan Cahill

I normally tie flies for Steelhead that are really best fished for "summer runs". The problem is that I rarely tie a fly larger than a 1.5 in Alec Jackson which is usually a size 1 or 2 in other brands. In order to have larger patterns in my arsenal, I have learned to tie tube flies as this provides the best of two worlds; a large profile with a small hook.

I use a method that combines two tube sizes which allows me to put a conehead on the front of the fly. This method also allows for no additional conehead but gives a small head for this larger fly. I like to use Artic Fox, Silver Fox and Temple Dog fur as this material really gives movement in even the slowest water. I also quite often use stretch flex for the body as it covers well and provides color with a hint of translucency without adding bulk to the fly. I only use silicone tubing as this allows for the hook to remain inside the tube at all times without adding extra "connecting pieces".

I only offer this pattern for the readers because I find it so effective. The variation of material layering, length and color lends itself to just about any configuration and is only limited by the tier's imagination. I find that this style also allows for a "target" at the back of the fly. This particular fly is a one of my favorites.....not because Steelhead like it but because I do. It is this style, or other colors in the same pattern, I fish most often in murky water or during the Winter season.

As usual with me, I don't give my flies a name. You can name your own creations using this method.



MATERIALS



- Tube:** Large Clear Silicone Tube.
Small Chartreuse Silicone Tube
(small tubing must fit inside larger tubing)
- Thread:** Black *(Tie in tail and tag)*
Chartreuse
- Tail:** Chartreuse Polar Bear
- Body:** Rear Half: Chartrese Stretch Flex.
Front Half: Dubbed Black Seal Fur.
- Rib:** Flat Gold Tinsel (over seal fur)
- Wing:** First Layer: Chartreuse Artic Fox
Second Layer: Green Artic Fox
Third Layer: Black Silver Fox
- Accent:** Pearl Krystal Flash, Black Krystal Flash
- Hackle:** Rear: Chartreuse Saddle Hackle
Front: Green Guinea Hen
- Cheeks:** Jungle Cock
- Head:** Chartreuse or Black Cone Head.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

Start out by gluing 2 different sizes of silicone tubing together.

I often prepare several tubes at one time.

I use different colors of tubing as well.



Slide the tube on the pin.

I use a 3 step and 2 step pin ... alternatively, one could use a blind eye steelhead hook say size 2/0 or 3/0.



Tie in a small clump of chartreuse polar bear.



Change thread color to chartreuse.

Tie in a piece of chartreuse stretch flex.



Wrap the stretch flex forward 1/2 way up the larger tube.

Tie it off and cut off the excess stretch flex.



At this point I tie in a white and a chartreuse saddle hackle to "frame" the stretch flex.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)

Wrap both hackles two or three times forming a "collar" framing the stretch flex.

Tie off, and clip the excess hackle.

Tie in small gold tinsel and prep black seal fur to dub on to the front half of the large tube.



Wrap the dubbed seal fur forward to the front edge of the large tube.

Wind the gold tinsel forward as a rib.

Tie in a green guinea hackle. Wrap two or three times, tie off and clip.



The wing will be tied on the smaller diameter tube.

Tie in a clump of chartreuse artic fur to form the first layer of the wing. Trim excess.



Tie in a slightly longer layer of green artic fox fur for the second layer of the wing.



Tie in a third wing black silver fox.

Again, each wing is longer than the one before.

I also added a small bit of pearl Krystal flash to each side.



Tie in jungle cock on each side.

The jungle cock should extend back to the chartreuse "collar".

TYING INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)

Add a small bit of black seal fur to finish fly for the conehead.

I also added a single strand of black krystal flash to the dark wing.

The tube is now slid forward and almost off the pin in order to cut the narrow tube on an angle so the conehead can be started.



The tube is cut on an angle.

Slide the conehead (*either chartreuse or black*) over the tip of the tube.



You'll need needle-nose pliers for this step.

Grasp the tip of the tubing with the pliers and slide the conehead back against the wing.



Cut the tube about 1/16" from cone (*Just enough to melt back when finishing*).



Melt the tube to hold the conehead in place.

While doing this, stick a pin down the center to keep a hole open for your line.



The finished fly.