

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## EXTENDED BODY GREEN DRAKE

contributed by  
Martin Swain

This is a pattern from Scottish Fly Tier, Davie McPhail.

I use it on the Skagit when May flies or Green Drakes are coming off. I love this pattern as it's easy to tie and it doesn't matter how many fish chomp on the fly it won't sink.

The colour and size of body foam can be changed to represent many different insects.



The Extended Body Green Drake in action!!



**Fishing Green Drake Hatches:** These large insects are trout candy on our western streams. Green drakes are the largest mayflies that provide fishable hatches in our fast local waters. In the Pacific Northwest region, look for them toward the end of the giant stonefly hatches; May & June. Hatches occur during mid-day and are usually easily visible. Windless, cloud-cover days are best. Green Drakes are large insects and evidently taste really good to trout. When Green Drakes hatch in good numbers the trout forget all other foods and target them only. A dense hatch of Green Drakes can bring the largest trout to the surface. But, Green Drakes are fickle and somewhat unpredictable. Some days have heavy hatches others very light. Some regions of a stream will have more insects than others. Green Drake hatches are something that the fully armed angler prepares for, even though it may not be the main target. However, if you ever encounter a major Green Drake hatch and are unprepared you will remember it with sorrow. Pictured is a *Drunella Grandis dun*, which is the cover shot of WESTERN MAYFLY HATCHES.

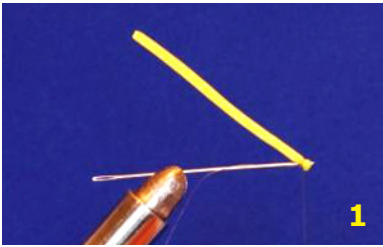
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### MATERIALS

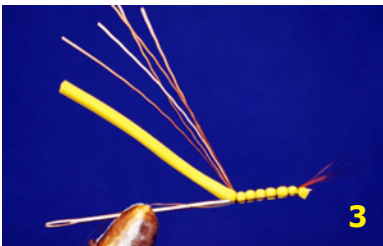


- Hook:** Mustad C49S, Sizes #10 to #16
- Thread:** Olive Dun 8/0
- Tail:** Moose Main
- Body:** Yellow 2mm foam cut 1-1/2" long, 5mm wide
- Wing:** Olive Deer Hair
- Other:** Sewing Needle  
Olive Sharpie Pen  
Sally Hansen's "Hard As Nails"

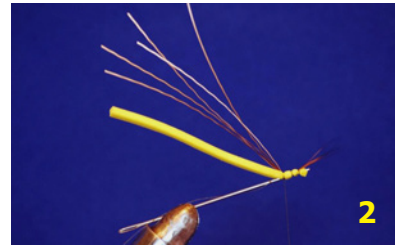
**TYING INSTRUCTIONS**



- Place the Sewing needle in the vise & push the foam onto the needle point. Start the thread with a 4" long waste tag.



- Stack 4-5 Moose Mane hairs, lay them on top of the foam extending 1/2" past the end of the foam, make two thread wraps over the moose and then pass the thread in between the foam and the needle trapping the waste tag of thread.



- Move the thread back 2mm and take a single wrap over the moose and foam to form a body segment. Once again make two thread wraps over the moose and then pass the thread in between the foam and the needle.

- Repeat step 3 until you have 6 or 7 body segments. Whip finish at the end of the last segment & cut the thread the same length as the waste tag. Slide the foam off the needle and put aside for later.



- Place the C49S hook in the vise and start the thread at the eye. Take the thread back 1/4 of the hook length, then advance back 1/2 way to the eye. Stack a small bunch of deer hair & tie on top of the hook with the tips facing over the hook eye. Separate in to 2 equal wings.



- Take the thread back to the 1/4 hook point and tie in the foam body with the moose hair on the bottom. Lift the foam body and tie the loose thread end along the shank right up to the eye.



- Pull the foam between the wings & tie down behind the hook eye. Lift the foam up and whip finish. Cut the foam even with the front of the hook eye, round off the corners of foam.

*The Finished Fly*



*Extended Body Green Drake*

- Use the Olive sharpie to lightly colour up the foam while still allowing some of the yellow to show through.

- Use sally Hansen's Hard as Nails to seal the thread on the body and the whip finish.

