

The Osprey Fly Box “Foamy Bomber”

A couple years ago when I had the chance to go to the Dean River with the Totem's, **Kelly Davison** recommended I tie up some **Foamy Bomber's** for the trip. He told me the fly was very versatile, it could be fished damp by casting upstream, fished subsurface and swung on a sink tip line, or his favourite method, with a ruffle hitch cast down and across with a dry line and fished under tension as a waked fly. Kelly feels the natural translucency of the seal fur is responsible for the fly's success and he's had some great days with it. Unfortunately my Dean River experience was cancelled due to a blown out knee after an encounter with my niece's super high performance 60cc dirt bike, but that's a whole other story.

The fly sat in my box unused until our October trip to the Bulkley. **Rick Jones** had been having success with a dry fly, so when we went back to the run where I'd caught my first ever steelhead a few days earlier I thought I'd give it a try. As I got down to the slightly riffled water and the fly was about mid way thorough the swing, much to my amazement there was a swirl and I felt the line tighten. I fought this first fish of the day about 30 seconds until it came unbuttoned. Frank advised that I take a few steps upstream and go through the run again. Two or 3 casts later another fish rose to the fly and missed. I kept working down through the run and finally the 32" buck engulfed the fly. After some helpful coaching from Frank and a run upriver that had me well into the backing, I managed to land the high light of my trip. One thing worth remembering is all 3 fish had been sitting in water, which was less than knee deep.

Next year I'll have a few more of these flies in my box, I might add a white wing to make it easier to see in the dark riffly water, and might also try it with a body of black plastic chenille for the waked version.

To tie the Foamy Bomber:

- Wrap the hook with thread and tie in the tail and rib
- Move the thread up to ¼ body length and tie in the foam, bind it down tightly and warp in back to the rear of the body. Move the thread up to the eye and fold the foam toward the front and tie it down tightly at the front. Move the thread to the rear and forward again loosely tying in the foam so it will stay buoyant.
- Move the thread to the rear again apply the dubbing body toward the eye.
- Tie in the hackle at the front and wrap back. Counter wrap the rib forward to tie in the hackle. Whip finish.

Hook: TMC 7989, Daiichi 2421
sizes 2-6

Thread: Black

Rib: Fine gold/silver wire

Tail: Black calf tail

Body: Black seal fur over Rainy's
Float Foam, size M

Hackle: Black saddle

