

OSPREY FLY BOX

WESTERN GREEN DRAKE

contributed by Danie Erasmus

On a recent trip to Turnagain Lake Lodge in northwestern BC this fly proved to be very effective in deceiving large rainbow trout (up to 24 inches) into thinking this fly is the real thing.

If Turnagain Lake sounds familiar it is because this was the same area where Ernie "Punch" Mclean were lost and found. The area is very remote and only accessible by plane or on horseback. I spent 6 to 8 hours a day in the saddle for three days with 7 other anglers, 6 wranglers and 36 horses to get to fish for some of the most intensely spotted rainbows I have ever seen in one of the most remote and rugged areas in BC. If your sense of adventure is a little more subdued you can also fly in...

large intense Western Green Drake (*Drunella grandis*) hatches in late June and early July. These hatches are not just a few hundred insects but literally thousands. To fish during a Green Drake hatch is a sight to be seen and even more memorable by the fact that you can fish until 11pm in daylight.



Danie's Western Green Drake and the natural - lateral view.



Danie's Western Green Drake and the natural - top view.

I initially developed this fly to fish rivers around Prince George. The nutrient rich spring creeks around Prince George have very

Although this fly is imitating a Green Drake I use brown dubbing instead of green. I have found that when the fly is wet the brown dubbing seem to be closer in appearance to the natural than any of the green dubbings I have tried. Now, that being said I do not know if brown dubbing will catch you more fish than green dubbing on the fly. I also clip the hackle on the bottom of the fly level with the hook. This allows the fly to fall correctly on the water.

MATERIALS



- Hook: Standard Dry Fly, Mustad 94840
Size: #6
- Thread: Olive #6
- Tail: Black Deer Hair
- Body: Dark Brown Dubbing
- Rib: Yellow Embroidery Thread or Floss
- Wing: Black Deer Hair
- Hackle: Medium Brown and Yellow Grizzly Hackle

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



Debarb the hook.
Lay down a thread base.
Stack hair and tie in the tail.
Stack hair and tie in deer hair wing.
Tie in embroidery floss for the rib.



Dub the body.
Wrap the rib forward to the wing.



Tie in the hackles.
Wrap two or three turns behind wing and then wrap forward to eye of hook.
Form a thread head and whip finish.



Clip bottom of the hackle to form an inverted "V".
This allows the fly to sit flat on the water.

The Finished Fly



Western Green Drake

Tie on to your dry line and HOLD ON!!