

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## MARTIN TOLLEY'S OCTOBER

*contributed by*  
**Rick Jones**

This fly was passed on to me by Martin Tolley, an old steelheader I knew some years ago.

I would meet Martin on the Bulkley River, most years in September and October. One of his favorite pieces of water he liked to fish was the run we called "Lower Barrett". Even today as I power up stream, I can visualize Martin in waist deep water at the tail out of the Lower Barrett, stooped slightly as he watched the fly wake across the glossy surface.

He gave me this fly (his own tie) and asked me to try it. It worked well.

I have never used the original fly, but substituted my own copy. The original fly rides in my box (never to be used) as a reminder of a old fly fisher friend that has passed away long ago.

Try this tie on the Coquahalla River for summer run steelhead .... you may be surprised!

If nothing else it will be a great exercise in clipped deer hair stacked bodies.



## MATERIALS



**Hook:** Mustad 3690 Size: #4 - #6

**Thread:** Olive, 3/0 Uni or Kevlar

**Tail:** Deer Hair

**Body:** Spun Deer Hair

**Wing:** Deer Hair

**Hair Packer:** This one is home made. Unscrew the metal tip from the bottom of the ballpoint pen. File the tip until the hole is large enough to slip over the eye of the hook. Screw the metal tip back onto the body of the pen.

## TYING INSTRUCTIONS

*and Photography by Peter Chatt*



- Pinch barb of the hook.
- Tie thread in above the hook point and create a small thread base.
- DO NOT lay down a thread base along the entire length of the hook as you do with most flies.
- Tie in a bundle of deer hair to form the tail.
- GLUE (*add a drop of Zap a Gap or Super Glue*) so that the bundle stays on top of the hook. Set aside to dry.
- If tying several flies, complete the tail portion of each fly before moving to the next steps.

**TYING INSTRUCTIONS** *(continued)*



- Select a clean bundle and clip the tips off (so that you don't clip the tail when trimming)
- Spin tight to the tail or up on the tail wrap.



- Clean and add several more bundles.
- Pack each bundle as you go.



- Pack tight and ensure that you have room for the last bundle over the front.



- On the last bundle, do not clip the tips of the stacked deer hair.
- The tips should extend forward over the eye of the hook Tie is so that the length of the wing is approximately equal to the body of the fly.
- The last bundle is mounted on top of the hook. Hold tightly so that the deer hair does not spin around the hook.
- Pack so the tips stand up.
- Make a thread head on the hook so it holds the wing up right.



- With serated scissors do a rough trim of the body, being careful not to clip off the tips of the tail or the wing.

*The Finished Fly*



*Martin Tolley's October*

- Do the final trim to create a smooth cigar shaped body.
- Add a drop of head cement to the thread head.

**TYER'S NOTE:** This fly should also be good on the lakes when the big sedges are popping. This is a very buoyant fly that will not sink.