

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## WOOLLY BUGGER

by Frank Arcadi

Of all the flies in my flybox, I would have to say that the Woolly Buzzer or Woolly Worm (*Woolly Buzzer minus the marabou tail*) is one of the most useful to me.

It's very easy and quick to tie; it can be tied in varying sizes and colours to mimic different insect types and can be fished with a variety of retrieves depending upon the situation. When I began my flyfishing ways many years ago, casting and fly tying were new to me. It was a confidence builder to be able to tie a fly without too much frustration that actually caught fish.

Using only three materials besides the hook and the thread, and not involving any complicated tying steps makes for less time at the vise and more time on the water. This is important because I can whip up several of these, even with the limited spare time that I have.

Many of my early trips as a flyfisher were to Daisy Lake, just off the Sea to Sky Highway south of Whistler. I fished there often with my father, with former Osprey Ernie Schmidt and with Edgar Lau. It is there that I first discovered how effective the Woolly Buzzer can be. Fished on a slow retrieve among the submerged stumps at the mouths of the Cheakamus and Brandywine Creeks or dead drift in the channels cut by these same creeks proved to be deadly.

Whenever I am lake fishing and it is not obvious what the trout are on, I go to my old standby. It doesn't always produce but it has given me enough success that I am able to fish with it confidently.



*Woolly Buzzers and Woolly Worms can be tied in a variety of colours.*

### MATERIALS



- Hook:** Mustad 9672 or equivalent
- Thread:** Black
- Tail:** Maribou - colour to match body.
- Body:** Dubbed Seal Fur - brown, green or to suit.
- Hackle:** Brown Saddle



***TYING INSTRUCTIONS***



Debarb the hook.  
Lay down a thread base.  
Tie in a Maribou tail (optional).  
Tie in the hackle by the tip



Dub a Seal Fur body.



Continue to dub body to the eye of the hook.

*The Finished Flies*



Palmer the hackle forward to the head.  
Tie off and clip excess hackle.  
Build a thread head, whip finish and add head cement.

*Woolly Bugger*



The Woolly Worm is tied without the marabou tail.  
Woolly Buggers and Woolly Worms can be tied in a variety of colours and sizes.

*Green Woolly Worm*



When nothin' else is workin' .... tie one on!

*Brown Woolly Worm*