



Single Haul



The Newsletter of the Izaak Walton Flyfishing Club

March, 2005

Editor's Eddy

A skier attempts to glide off the snowy roof of a low building into the box of a small truck. He misses his target, although the observer is left in the dark about the outcome of his leg bashing into the vehicle's box and his head leading the assault on the ground. The caption of this current TV ad – in the vein of “some people do stupid things ... like paying too much for phone calls” – is effective, but the impression left on me is far less about a message of a long distance bargain than it is about, well, people doing stupid things. Sometimes our world seems to be bursting with them.

Although walking into water in chest waders without a belt is not exactly a kamikaze act of the ilk of the roof skier's antics, common sense should tell us that it is inherently unwise, even foolish. If so, why is so much written about it? According to an article in *Outdoor Canada*, 2,000 drown in North American rivers each year, and any who are anglers wearing hip or chest waders are routinely assumed to have succumbed because of the waders. But are they really a major contributing factor?

The article by Bob Tabbert on page 4 is the only wader experiment of which I'm aware since Lee Wulff's in the 1940s. Both have shown that one can swim and get ashore in waders, even (in Wulff's case) with a current, but Tabbert's conclusion that it could be impossible to get out of a steep-banked river wearing water-filled chest waders should persuade even the unconvinced or cynical.

Garth Thompson, an IWFFC member who died about 10 years ago, once related a tale of wader woes. As a much younger man in the early 1970s, Garth had twice paddled solo down the rough and remote Nagagami River in northern Ontario, with two major mishaps. One was going over a falls and losing all of his gear except his canoe. The other was being tugged off balance by a large brook trout and falling into a steep, granite-sided scour pool. Standing completely submerged on the bottom, he had to abandon his vest and rod, and slice off his chest waders with a knife in order to get out. Before meeting Garth, I'd taken the same trip and had stood casting on exactly the same spot, thinking, *Whoa, fall in there and you're a gonner!*

I've taken enough aquatic tumbles to know that it's tough to get into serious difficulties in shallow rivers. But shallow or deep, it makes sense to always buckle up – if only to stay warm and dry.

Bob Kuehnbaum, February 24, 2005

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Quotable / Notable Quotes

The man who coined the phrase "money can't buy happiness" never bought himself a good fly rod.

– Reg Baird

The fly rod is an epistemological tool the wielding of which gains us entry into a river's life – this is just as true on a slow-moving bass river as it is on a freestone stream.

– W.D. Wetherell, *Upland Stream, Notes on the Fishing Passion*, 1991

Club News & Events

Tsunami Relief Rod Draw

On behalf of the Indian Ocean tsunami relief effort, IWFFC will be contributing the proceeds of a draw for a 2-piece Loomis GL-X rod (length and weight to be of the winner's choice). Tickets, which went on sale at the club meeting on February 15th, are \$10 apiece. They were available at the Spring Fishing Show, and will be on sale at club meetings on March 1st and 15th, and April 5th, and the Forum; the draw will be held at the end of the Forum.

If you'd like one or more tickets, but won't be out to any of the above events, please send your payment (cheque) to the club address (page 8).

Winter/Spring Meeting Schedule

March 1st: Tying Night: Shane Reilly will be tying bass flies. Pierre Turgeon will again instruct beginners.

March 15th: General Meeting: Club member Mike Retallick will give a presentation on his trips to the West.

April 5th: Tying Night: Guest tyer: Club member Peter Pettos will be tying classic Spey flies for salmon and steelhead; Pierre Turgeon with the beginners.

April 19th: General Meeting: Club member Ken O'Brien will give a slide presentation on his 2004 two-week canoe trip down the Coppermine River in the N.W.T. Member Pat Kelly will present his last summer's trip to B.C.'s Campbell Rivers.

May 3rd: Tying Night: Guest tyer TBA; Pierre Turgeon at the beginners table. Entomologist Henry Frania will discuss how members can help monitor the Credit R. Green Drakes.

A guest tyer's spot is still open for May 3rd. Please contact Program Chair Don Arthurs at 416-869-5494 or darthurs@casselsbrock.com.

29th Canadian Fly Fishing Forum

April 9th and 10th at the **Holiday Inn** in **Burlington**.

Register for the Forum now!

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for the Forum as soon as you can. The club needs to pay for much of the event beforehand, so a large number of early registrants will make the whole thing easier. You can download the form from the club website and mail it in, or pay at the next meeting. Thanks!

The Forum Committee still require volunteer club members for the following:

- At the Forum: check seminar badges, introduce speakers, and help with the club booth.
- At the banquet: sell tickets and handle silent auction/raffles.

If you're going to the show, why not set aside an hour or two to help make the Forum an even better success? Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please get in touch with Forum Chair **Mike Rowan** at flyfisher@castle.on.ca.

Annual Award Nominations

IWFFC would still like to hear from members about nominations for awards to be presented at the 2005 Forum. The awards are:

Maurice How Award: To recognize one individual's enthusiasm and involvement in supporting the affairs of the club.

Roderick Haig-Brown Award: To recognize one individual's contributions and achievements in the field of conservation.

Jack Sutton Award: To recognize creativity and innovation in fly tying.

Greg Clark Award: To recognize contributions in the arts of fly fishing.

Please get in touch with club president Ted Armstrong at 905-637-2058 (home number) or at tarmstrong@uniongas.com.

Spring Outing / BBQ

A club spring outing has been booked at Humber Springs on Sunday, May 15th. The cost is \$25 per angler. Angling hours are between 9 am and 5 pm. Please note that members are restricted to catch-and-release with single barbless hooks.

The ponds at Humber Springs are stocked with rainbow trout which can reach a very respectable size (20"). There are also native brook trout.

This year, there will be a simple **BBQ lunch** (hot dogs, burgers, beverages) for all attendees. A few "expert" casters will also be on hand to give **casting tips** to newer members and beginners.

If you'd like some additional information, go to their website at www.humbersprings.com.



Conservation Corner

2005 Workday Schedule

Saturday, March 5th: TUC, garbage kiosk construction

Saturday, April 24th: TUC, annual spring clean up and garbage kiosk installation, Sligo & Forks of the Credit.

Saturday, May 28th: IWFFC, tree planting in Erin.

Saturday, June 11th: TUC, tree planting in Hillsburgh

Sunday, July 10th: Joint TUC/IWFFC, Rogers Creek fish barrier mitigation.

Saturday, July 23rd: IWFFC, Forks of the Credit log revetment #1.

Saturday, September 10th: IWFFC, Forks of the Credit log revetment #2.

Sunday, October 16th: TUC, WeCARE West Credit watershed tour.

TBA, November: Credit R. redd surveys.

2005 Electrofishing Schedule

This summer, the CVC electrofishing crew will monitor 43 sites across the watershed. At many of the larger stations (listed below), volunteers are needed to help complete the work. The work is fun, and the reward is to help collect valuable data about the health of the river. All are on weekdays, except the last day – a Saturday. To volunteer, contact stewardship@creditvalleycons.com. The schedule may change due to weather or other circumstances, so please consult the CVC website for any changes at www.creditvalleycons.com/takingaction/electrofishing.html.

June 7th West Credit R. downstream from Bel-fountain (3-5 people needed)

June 10th Credit R. at Rail Trail (8-11)

June 17th Credit R. down from Hwy 24 (10-13)

June 24th Credit R. at Glen Williams (9-11)

June 28th Shaws Ck. tributary down-stream of Townline Road (1-3)

July 8th Credit R. at Forks downstream of Dominion St (6-8)

July 15th Credit R. at Ferndale (8-11)

July 22nd Erindale Park at Dundas St. (10-13)

July 29th Credit R. at Forks of the Credit Provincial Park (8-11)

Aug 5th Credit R., Beech Grove Sideroad (5-7)

Aug 12th Credit R. Mississauga Golf and Country Club (11-13)

Aug 17th Credit R. at Terra Cotta Inn (9-11)

Aug 19th Credit R. up from Old Derry Rd. (10-13)

Sept 24th Silver Ck. Up from Hwy 7, Norval (4-7)

Grand River Tailwater

The first meeting of the Grand River Tailwater Fisheries Management Plan (GRTFMP)

Implementation Committee was held February 21, 2005. Its mandate is to add life to the GRTFMP, involving continuing the cooperation and communications among partner groups and stakeholders to complete projects identified in the Tailwater Plan and its "Best Bets". This group will also be responsible for prioritizing and establishing direction for the completion of Fish Plan projects.

IWFFC's representative, **Allan Cole**, felt that the meeting was quite successful, and that there was good cooperation between the participants. Initially, the group will meet monthly in order to put some urgency into the development of the implementation plan and then bi-monthly to monitor progress and to address any issues that develop.

There will also be representatives from Friends of the Grand River, MNR, GRCA, Twp. of Centre Wellington, GRFMP Implementation Committee, Belwood Lake Cottagers Association, Grand Guides, Wellington County Stewardship Council, Fergus-Elora Chamber of Commerce, TUC, DFO and the academic community.

Credit River Green Drake Monitoring

Entomologist Henry Frania, who last year released his independent study suggesting severely declining Green Drake populations on the upper Credit, has proposed an angler-based monitoring program. During the emergence and egg-laying periods, anglers would estimate numbers in their favourite "beats" and try to identify egg-laying sites. To participate, please contact Bob Kuehnbaum (see box, page 1). Henry will discuss the program at our May 3rd meeting.

Trips & Tips

Using the Snake to Cast

Bill Christmas

Much of my fly fishing has been done on small, overgrown streams, where the conventional cast is impossible. Many innovative ways to present the fly to a good fish-holding position have been documented over the years. The bow and arrow method usually produced a hand injury or, when I really try hard, a damaged earlobe. To reduce trips to the emergency ward, I started thinking defensively: "How can I get the fly from here to a spot fifteen or so feet away in some safer way!".

It seemed that by starting my early casting with the Belgian method of constant motion and pressure, I already had the basics of the "snake delivery" without realizing it. By simply getting the fly moving on the water, then snapping the rod tip at my desired target, I was able to keep the fly low, out of the trees and avoided the bushes behind me. In golf, this might be called "failure to complete the backswing". What I was doing was using inertia of motion (see, I didn't sleep through *all* my science classes at school) to help me propel my fly at a new target. At the Canadian Fly Fishing Forum in 1993, I was surprised during Joe Humphrey's presentation when he showed a brief video of him taking a trout on a small, overgrown stream, using a similar technique. He used little or no arm motion, but rather a snap of the wrist, coupled with hand action similar to opening a screen door, to snap the rod tip at the target.

This useful tip should help to keep you from spending most of your time climbing trees and probing the bushes looking for your flies. You will spend more time over the fish. One word of caution: Learn to set the hook with either a side flick of the rod, or flick of the tip *at* the fish. Either method will usually hook the fish. If you miss, you won't find yourself climbing the aforementioned trees.

This is the second of two articles which Bill submitted as previews to his talk at the upcoming Forum.

Why Wear a Wading Belt?

Bob Tabbert, from Acadiana Flyrodders of Lafayette Newsletter

My breathable waders fit comfortably – snugly enough to not be baggy in the knees or butt, but loose enough to step up onto a height similar to a kitchen chair, or squat without the legs binding. They have a water seal at the top, with an elastic string sewn into the seam; I usually keep it pulled tight, only loosening it to retrieve or store items in the inside chest pocket. When going fishing, I put on my wading boots (without gravel guards), squat down to press the air out of the legs, tighten the belt, stand up and tighten the top elastic cord.

My belt has a very wide back for good back support. It doesn't stretch or slip, and I wear it quite snugly, while not impeding the ability to take a deep breath.

For the test, I lowered myself into the shallow end of a swimming pool by climbing down

the ladder. As I lowered myself, the water pressure squeezed the air out of the legs past the waist belt. Once I was standing about mid-chest deep, I walked towards the deep end of the pool until the water was at my chin, at which time I dropped underwater to see what would happen.

I was expecting to find my legs buoyant and floating upwards, but, with breathables, water pressure had squeezed all the trapped air out of the legs and chest. Lying on my back with my legs extended, I floated very comfortably with absolutely no feeling of having to compensate for buoyant legs, and could easily keep my face and mouth above the water. When I brought my knees up to my chest, my lower body sank until the top of my head was just at the water's surface, but I remained upright.

I could easily move with a back paddling stroke, and I even dove downwards and was able to swim as if I was wearing just a swimsuit. The waders were tightly pressed against my body, so I was able to move my legs and kick very easily and without any constriction or interference, and without any complications from excess buoyancy.

When I stood up in the neck-deep water, removed the wading belt and loosened the top elastic cord, I could feel the water in my legs and socks within seconds. Again, I ducked down underwater and floated up motionlessly. There was absolutely no difference in buoyancy, and I was still able to float easily with my face and mouth above water, back paddle, and move towards the side of the pool. Once I started moving backwards, however, my waders filled completely and the legs 'billowed' slightly away from my skin. It was not a full 'ballooning' effect: it was more like suddenly wearing extra large, loose pants. Whereas the waders were before pressed tightly to my legs, they were now loose and billowy; this made a very noticeable difference in my ability to kick my legs, although it did not affect how I floated in a 'dead float'.

Again, I rolled over and dove underwater, and found that my ability to swim was impeded a bit. I could still move, but when I kicked my legs, the waders shifted around and got slightly tangled in my legs. It did not prohibit me from swimming, as they did not 'parachute' open and slow me down, but I absolutely preferred the earlier effect with the belt, where the waders were unnoticeable. Imagine trying to run in extra baggy jeans, and you can understand what I'm talking about.

The difference was most noticeable when I backstroked to the side of the deep end of the pool and tried climbing out. I was completely unable to pull myself up. When I was immersed, the waders were weightless, but once I got myself up to where my arms were holding me out of the water, the legs and body of the waders were so full of water

(probably in excess of 150 pounds) that I could not pull my body out of the pool. Kicking did not help, because the legs were so full of water that I could not bend them. The harder I tried to pull/kick myself out, with every little gain of an inch out the pool, the heavier the waders got and the more impossible it was to climb out.

I swam over to the ladder, and tried to climb out from the shallow end. Again, once I got up so that my crotch was out of the water, the weight of the trapped water combined with the full legs made it impossible to lift my legs to the next rung. Climbing out was completely impossible!

I was not in a position to flop forward onto my belly to drain the legs, so I climbed back down and swam to the very shallow end of the pool. I stood facing the pool and managed to hoist myself up until my butt was on the ledge with my legs still in the water. Then I tried to swing my legs out of the water, one leg at a time. Even that proved impossible. The weight in one lower leg alone was probably in excess of 50 pounds, and I could not even raise one leg up to the ledge beside me. I lay on my back hoping to drain the water out of the upper part of my waders, but this had no effect at all on the amount of water in the lower legs. So I hopped back into the water, removed my boots and took off my waders before I climbed out.

A fisherman might find himself in a similar situation as I was if they were fishing a calm pool and the bank collapsed under his feet. My experiment did not take into account falling into moving current, other than the current differential when back paddling. Nonetheless, I did discover that some 'myths' about wearing wading belts seem patently untrue. In my test, there was absolutely no buoyant effect from air trapped in the legs, since it was squeezed out when I entered the water. Any fisherman entering water deeper than the waist would have the same thing happen. Therefore, there is no trapped air to float up your legs.

Also, the effect of the current on waders full of water is not pronounced, but it is enough to impede your agility. Images of getting 'dragged down' by waders full of water are ungrounded, as I was able to float at exactly the same level of buoyancy without the wading belt as with it.

While swimming underwater, the effect of the belt was very pronounced. The waders with the belt, contrary to common belief, were snugger and provided no interference. The waders without the belt were baggy, billowy, and were not easy to swim in.

A tremendously important effect is the difficulty of getting out of the water. Although I did not try to get out of the pool with the belt on, I believe it would have been quite manageable.

However, once the waders were filled with water, I was completely unable to get out of the pool. I could not pull myself up and flop onto the shore, as my legs remained lower than my body and full of water. I could not climb a ladder, nor could I even raise my legs out of the pool once I was sitting on the edge.

I think if a fisherman were to fall into a steep-sided pool or stream while wearing waders without a belt, he would quickly be in a very serious life-threatening situation. The only way I can imagine getting out would be to slice the waders open, or to somehow get them off. It would be impossible to grab a branch and haul yourself out, impossible to stand and step up over a bank more than 12 or 14 inches tall, and impossible for friends on shore to pull you up unless they were able to drag 300-400 pounds (your body weight plus the water in the waders) up an incline. If the river was the right type, another egress option would be to find a shallow bank and slither onto it on your belly until you were able to raise your legs and drain them. However, I would certainly not want to hope to find a spot exactly like that if I fell in.

I used to theorize that there really wasn't much difference between wearing a belt or not. I am now a complete convert, and am going to retrofit the belt I have so that it has a backup buckle in addition to the Velcro.

Please, everybody, *wear a wading belt!*

Courtesy FFF's ClubWire email newswire service

Capturing a Memory

Jeff Fox, Southern Oregon Fly Fishers

As fly fishermen we tend to pull out photos – mementos of our success rather than opening the door to the freezer. These snapshots remind us of the places we have been and the fish we've caught. The photos can really put a damper on those great fishing tales, though. I have many of these pictures as do most of you; I've seen them at club meetings and when visiting other fishers. I have noticed that most of the pictures suffer from the same few flaws that turn a potentially great photo into a simple snapshot. I'm not going to talk about f-stops, filters or fancy lenses; rather, I will focus on three things: *subject, background & light*.

Subject: What is the subject of your photo – the angler and fish or 80-odd feet of bleak brushy shoreline? Fill the frame with your subject. Most viewfinders have marked perimeters, so keep your subject inside the lines, just not way inside.

Background: Try to control what is in the background. Nothing will ruin a photo more quickly

than garbage or the dreaded port-a-potty; likewise, having a tree branch sticking out of your partner's ear or ... well, you get the picture. If you don't like the background, change your angle or move.

Light: Lighting your subject properly can be the most difficult to accomplish. You are stuck with the ambient light of the moment, be it fog-bound dawn to hot midsummer sunshine. Try to light the front of your subject; when that is not possible, use your flash to fill shadows and light the angler and fish. Partial shadowing caused by hats can completely black out an angler's face in an otherwise well lit photo; lose the hat, shoot from a higher angle, or use a flash to keep the happy angler in the picture. Use your flash in lower light conditions; it doesn't need to be dark. The light from the flash will replace color lost to an overcast day.

Whenever possible, prepare for the photo before landing the fish. If this is not possible, have the angler start reviving the fish while you get the camera ready. Set the angler up, frame and focus the shot before having the fish removed from the water. When you are set have the angler lift the fish, fine tune the focus and trip the shutter. The fish will only be out of the water for 5-10 seconds then back in for revival and release.

Courtesy FFF's ClubWire email newswire service

Fly Tying

Fire Tiger

William Gerrard

Thread: 8/0 white and 8/0 black

Hook: size 2 standard wire, 3X-long streamer, turned-down eye (Mustad 9672 or 3665A)

Tail: Orange hen hackle fibres

Body: Chartreuse floss (or UNI Stretch)

Rib: Medium copper Mylar tinsel

Throat: Chartreuse bucktail and orange hen hackle fibres

Underwing: Peacock herl over chartreuse bucktail over copper Krystal Flash – all sparse

Wing: Two pairs of matched green hackle feathers from a Chinese neck

Head: Black

Notes: Interestingly, large feather wing streamers are mainly a North American phenomenon. In particular, New England is the source of great creativity and innovation in streamer patterns. Why they evolved there to the degree that they did

is a matter of speculation, but it's interesting to wonder about on the influence of fishing regulations. In my opinion, had it not been for the local ban on the use of bait, streamer flies would never have taken off as they did.

One name, Carrie Stevens, epitomizes streamer fly tying above any others. Without the aid of a vise or other tying tools, Carrie elevated streamer fly tying to an art form.

The Rangely Lakes region in Maine, with its land-locked salmon and brook trout populations, became a choice angling destination after WWII. This is where Carrie and her husband lived and operated a fishing camp. On the side, Carrie ran her very successful fly-tying business.



Carrie sold her business in 1953, but the New England streamer tying carried on, notably through the influence of a fly-tying club, the United Fly Tyers in Boston. Today, Mike Martinek stands out among those who continue the Carrie Stevens tradition of streamer fly tying.

This pattern follows a simpler streamer style that developed after Carrie under the influence of people like Bill Edson. The Fire Tiger was devised by Bob Petti. I've added bucktail to the underwing because it adds structure and translucency to the feather wings.

Mrs. Simpson

William Gerrard

Thread: 6/0 Black

Hook size: 2, 4, 6, 8,10,12,14 standard wire, 3X-long streamer, turned-down eye (Mustad 9672)

Tail: Black squirrel tail

Underbody: Red or yellow wool

Wings: 6 pairs of greenish, patterned, back feathers from a male ringneck pheasant taken from a full skin - side mounted

Notes: This fly epitomizes the New Zealand "killer" style of flies. As with all flies tied in this style, the

number of feathers required depends on the hook size. For flies up to size 8, use one set of feather pairs, tied just behind the eye. For flies in size 6, use two sets of feather pairs, one set behind the eye and one at mid shank (total: eight feathers). For size 4 and larger flies, use three sets of feather pairs as described above. Loose feathers make matching a very difficult job. Feathers on whole skins are best. This style works well for all kinds of game bird feathers. Try "church window" feathers or golden pheasant feathers for a different effect.



Book Reviews

Tying Emergers

By Jim Schollmeyer and Ted Leeson
 Frank Amato Publications, Portland, OR
 344 pages, hardbound & softbound, illustrated, color
 – Suggested price \$ 60.00 & \$ 45.00
 Reviewed by Bruce E Harang

For any fly tyer wanting a PhD level course in tying emerger patterns, this book is the answer. It will provide the fly tyer with all of the tools required to tie an emerger pattern or emerger style and tie it exceedingly well. In addition, it utilizes some innovative methods of presenting the material so that it is both easy to find and easy to understand.

The first innovative feature is the manner in which the Table of Contents has been produced. It not only has the traditional text describing the chapters, it also has excellent quality images of most of the flies illustrated in the body of the book as well as silhouette icons identifying which major insect groups the pattern imitates or represents. This is an excellent help when trying to find a particular fly you have seen on the stream, for example, but for which you do not know the name; or an easy way to find a pattern that represents caddis emergers.

The body of the book starts out with Chapter One discussing emerger fly pattern design

and the material suitable to tie this type of pattern. Emerger patterns that are, in many cases, very small in size. Chapter Two describes, in step-by-step text and well-produced photographs, many enhanced with visual aids, the major tying techniques needed to tie good looking, well-proportioned, durable emerger flies that will both attract fish and stand up to their attention.

Chapter 3 through 17 present individual patterns broken down into fifteen emerger styles. There are trailing shuck patterns, paraloop patterns, side-wing patterns and everything in between. If there is a style of emerger pattern, it can be found in this book. And just as importantly, the patterns represent the creative thinking of fly tyers from around the world. For the American tyer the patterns from European tyers are worth much more than the price of the book. Here for the first time are emerger patterns, and the methods of tying them, from European tyers from Holland, Russia, and many other countries. Their ideas, tying methods, and material selection open whole new avenues of experimentation. Likewise, for the overseas tyers, here is a compendium of American tyers patterns and methods, many of which have never been published elsewhere. And all of this information is presented with clear step-by-step text and high quality photographs. The reader simply can't help but be successful in his own tying following these instructions. And while pattern books are not novels, the editing, and production of the book is so well done that one can actually just read the book for ideas and enjoy doing it. There are practically no typographical or grammatical errors which means that the reader can put on his reading eyes on cruise control and simply enjoy the journey. Likewise each pattern covers a single page or a series of pages, but no page has more than one pattern on it, making following along easy even while splitting one's attention between the book and the vise.

The book concludes with a series of three indices. These too are innovative, and they allow the tyer to find quickly a pattern in a number of ways. The first index breaks down the patterns by the major insect group or groups the pattern represents. The second index presents an alphabetical list of all of the patterns in the book. The third index classifies the pattern by the tyer or pattern originator of each pattern.

Overall, this is a well-written, well-researched, and well produced book on a specific class of flies – emergers. It is the benchmark volume for tying emerger patterns: a book every fly tyer must add to his library.

The Vise Quad

Where members share favourite fly patterns

1C.L. 2 (Crowe Lake) Crayfish

Jim Wenger

Hook: #4 to #12 3XL down-eye Mustad 9672, 38941, 9674; Tiemco 5263; or Partridge D4A

Thread: Single strand floss.

Weedguard: 30-lb monofilament (optional).

Antennae: Small bunch of ringneck cock pheasant tail feather fibres.

Eyes: 20-lb melted mono (optional).

Underbody: Medium (7/32" - 1/24oz.) lead eyes at the front of the hook and 5mm (3/16") Hi-D foam cylinder at rear of hook.

Carapace: 12 mm wide strip of felt.

Pincers: Rabbit fur from Zonker strip.

Thorax: Tan fur dubbing (with lots of guard hairs) mixed with sparkle yarn and olive fur.

Swimmerets: Picked out dubbing.

Rib: Tying floss.

Abdomen: Same as thorax.

Tail: Same as carapace.

Colours: Shades of olive and brown to match naturals. I like shades lighter than natural to match recently moulted crayfish.

1. Tie in mono for weedguard (optional).
2. Tie in lead eyes on the underside of the shank at the forward 1/3 point of hook.
3. Tie in ringneck tail fibres and mono eyes.
4. Tie in felt foam at bend.
5. Dub rear third of hook.
6. Tie in foam on top of shank at hook bend.
7. Advance the thread to second tie down point for foam tie it in and clip.
8. Tie in rabbit fur claws into the notch of the foam.
9. Wind thread to hook eye.
10. Dub back to foam.
11. Pull furry foam over Hi-D foam and tie down into notch in foam. While stretching felt, rib the abdomen with tying thread.
12. If using weedguard, bring it forward and tie off.
13. Whip finish and trim tail.
14. Cement head.

The Hi-D foam cylinder is cut, using bass tubing, from the kneeling pads found in gardening centers.

Use size #4 - #8 for bass and #6 - #12 for trout and panfish. It is best around rocky shorelines and free-stone streams, fished close to the bottom. The pattern was developed for smallmouth bass after watching them feed on crayfish in Crowe Lake and the surrounding streams. Ontario bass love to eat

crayfish just as much as their American cousins, and the fly has worked well on both sides of the border.



Contacting IWFFC

Website: <http://www.iwffc.ca>

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