

Alaska Flyfishers - Flies for Alaska

by Rich Johnson

Gorman's Bead Head Egg

Hook: Standard Wet, size 8
Bead: 5/32" Brass
Tag/Butt*: Heavy Thread, Fl. Green
Thread: 6/0, Red
Body: Chenille, Shell Pink
Wing: Glo-bug Yarn, Champagne



Notes & Comments:

Blessed are those who call me with fly questions. A acquaintance of mine called a last fall to ask me about a pattern that was taking dollies on the Parks Highway streams. After describing the fly over the phone, I told her that I'd need to see the fly as I'd never heard of an egg pattern that had a bead head and a green butt. As a result, a little asking around produced this pattern which now has a compartment in my speciality egg box. I wouldn't use this pattern on any stream that gets a lot of pressure, but for streams that are off color and on the swift side, it's a safe bet that the Gorman will fish well.



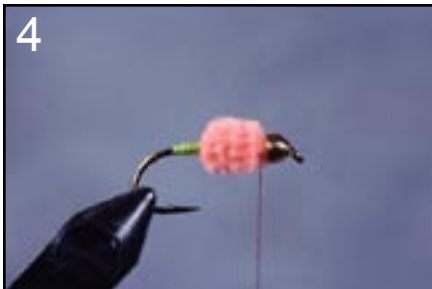
1
Slip a brass bead onto the hook and mount it in your vise. (You may have to pinch the barb down to get the bead onto the hook.)



2
Using heavy thread, wrap a thick tag (or butt*) on the shank between the point of the barb and the hook point. Whip finish towards the bead and cut the thread.



3
Attach your red tying thread and tie in the chenille just in front of the hook point. Bring the thread to just behind the bead.



4
Wrap the chenille forward, back, and forward to create a tight ball. Tie off and clip the excess. Place a couple more tight wraps in front of the chenille to secure it under the bead head.



5
Cut a short piece of Glo-bug yarn and split it in half. Tie in half on top and half on the bottom of the shank. Make sure the material encircles the shank. Trim any excess material that is forward of the thread and secure with tight wraps.



6
Half hitch, whip finish and cut your thread. Brush the Glo-bug yarn forward over the eye, pinch together and cut so as to be slightly longer than the body.



7
Brush the Glo-bug yarn back over the body and trim any excessively long fibers from the wing.

* I decided to use both the terms tag and butt to describe this part of the fly. I learned to call any material to the rear of the body a tag. Tinsel is the most common material called for in tags on trout patterns. Floss is most common on Atlantic Salmon patterns. However, there are a number of patterns that use colored material to the rear of the body. Then the pattern becomes "butted" as in the Green Butt Skunk. Since this the most common usage in modern flies, and the material for this fly happens to be green, I thought the term butt should also be included into the description.