



Sunriver Angler's Fly Tying Corner
By: Phil Fischer



This month's Sunriver Anglers Fly Tying Corner features a Loopy Wing BWO. This is a pattern originated by Bob Quigly that I have updated with different materials, and my own style. Blue wing olive mayflies have been prevalent this winter, as our warmer and wetter than normal weather has promoted very good hatches on the Fall, Crooked and Metolious rivers. This hatch is an important one that is common in our area in the Fall and Spring during overcast or rainy weather. Trout can get fussy when feeding on this hatch as there are usually a lot of the natural insects on the water during hatch periods. Using a cripple pattern, like the Loopy Wing BWO is often what it takes to catch these fussy fish.

I have tied the fly slightly differently than the original. This fly features CDC, or Cul de Canard feathers. The feather is from near the oil gland on waterfowl and it helps the fly float naturally using the natural oil that waterfowl use to preen their feathers. I used CDC for both dubbing the thorax, and for the wing. After catching a fish using a fly tied with

CDC, rather than using most commercial fly floatants, use some CDC Oil to redress your fly and keep it floating. CDC oil is available at our local fly shops or via mail order.

This fly is tied on a short-shank, wide-gape barbless competition hook. The hook is needle sharp, and the profile allows me to tie a much smaller fly to match the small size of the natural. The wide gape gives a superior chance at hooking the fish. And barbless allows a much quicker and more gentle release so as not to stress the fish.

Give this pattern a try. I think you'll like it!

Loopy Wing Blue Wing Olive Materials List:

Hook: Firehole Outdoors 413 Barbless Competition Hook (Short Shank, 3X Gape), Sizes 16-18, or similar

Thread: Veevus 14/0 Olive

Shuck: Zelon – Dark Olive

Abdomen: Turkey Biot – Dark Olive

Wing: CDC – Medium Dun or Natural

Thorax: Superfine Dubbing or CDC Fibers – Olive

Hackle: Whiting Midge Saddle – Grizzly Dyed Dun

Tying instructions and steps are being published in video form, and can be found on the Sunriver Anglers web page at <http://www.sunriveranglers.org/fly-tying-corner>, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers/>, or at the following YouTube URL: https://youtu.be/hBdL3BY_iuA

Learn to tie this fly pattern and fish it in rivers during the fall and spring on the Crooked, the Fall River, and Metolious. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Loopy Wing Blue Wing Olive, please don't hesitate to email me. Or if you have suggestions on future patterns to feature in this column, I welcome your input. I can be reached at <mailto:philfischer@sbcglobal.net>.