

Rubber Legs Wooly Bugger

Sunriver Angler's Fly-Tying Corner

By: Phil Fischer



For this month's fly tying pattern, I have chosen a Rubber Legs Wooly Bugger. This is a pattern that is an adaptation of a standard wooly bugger by adding rubber legs to the body of the fly. A number of years ago I was on a fly fishing trip to Argentina. Not being at all familiar with the waters in this country, we stopped at a fly shop in Buenos Aires and inquired about the right flies to fish on the rivers we would be visiting. We were immediately directed to fly bins containing wooly buggers, and almost all of their wooly bugger patterns sported rubber legs. We loaded up on these patterns in several darker colors ranging from brown to peacock to purple and black. The next two weeks, we fished almost exclusively with these patterns and caught some genuinely nice fish. Upon my return home, I immediately tied many similar patterns to give a try to in our local waters. Lo and behold, they worked. So, I have been fishing this style ever since.

The rubber legs on a wooly bugger impart a lot more action on the fly, and results in more takes. I fish this fly often at East Lake throughout the season. Often, I will fish this with an intermediate sinking line. With the large bead up front, the fly sinks rapidly and gets into the zone. I'll strip in back in in short choppy strips, or sometimes more lazy pulls, depending on what the fish seem to want on a given day. Another technique I have used with excellent success is to wind drift with this pattern, along with a Callibaetis soft hackle dropper fly. This is an excellent technique to deploy, especially with kids and newer fly fishers that have not fully developed their casting

abilities. Frequently the fish will follow the flashy body on this fly, but ultimately take the Callibaetis.

Give this pattern a try at your own vice and try it on the water next season.

Rubber Legs Wooly Bugger Materials List:

Hook:	Daiichi 1710, Size 6 - 8
Bead:	1/8" Brass Bead, Gold
Thread:	Ultra 140 Denier, Olive
Tail:	Jay Fair Cinnamon Marabou
Tail Flash:	Krystal Flash, Peacock
Rib:	Bronze Wire
Legs:	Olive Grizzly Legs
Body:	Kaktus Chenille, Peacock
Hackle:	Whiting Dry Fly Hackle, Dark Cree or Dark Barred Ginger

Tying instructions and steps are published in video form, and can be found on the Sunriver Anglers Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers/>, or at the following YouTube URL: https://youtu.be/0ITW_K_v7no

Experiment with this pattern throughout the season on Central Oregon's Rivers and lakes. If you have questions or would like additional information about this pattern, please do not 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 Philfischer@sbcglobal.net.