



Gurgler

(by Walt Sheppard)

Overview:

This is a simple to tie, easy to cast, surface fly useful when a more subtle surface disturbance is preferred, versus the greater disturbance of more common poppers. I believe it was originally created by the late Jack Garside for fishing the inshore waters around Boston. It can be modified in a number of ways. I've had great success by eliminating the tail and adding eyes, legs and a wing to imitate large cicadas.

Materials:

Hook: Standard SW or Freshwater hook in appropriate size
Thread: Flat waxed nylon or Flymaster+ to match body color
Tail: Bucktail & Krystal Flash
Body: Estaz & 2mm Flat Foam

Tying Steps:

1. Cut the flat foam to shape (approximately 2" by 3/8") and taper one end.
2. Start the thread just behind the hook eye.
3. Attach bucktail just behind the hook eye and on the top side of the hook shank
4. Attach 6 to 8 strands of krystal flash atop the bucktail. If desired, attach another tuft of bucktail on top of the krystal flash.
5. Spiral wrap the bucktail/krystal flash back to the hook bend, keeping it on the top side of the hook shank.
6. Tie in the tapered end of the flat foam with the strip facing to the rear.
7. Tie in the estaz and then advance the thread to behind the hook eye. Tightly wrap the estaz forward to the hook eye and tie off. Snip off the excess material.
8. Move the thread back to about 1/4" behind the hook eye. Fold the foam strip forward, over the estaz body and tie down. If building a double layer head, fold the front end of the foam strip back and tie down. Trim any excess foam, whip finish and add a drop of head cement to the thread wraps.