Crane Fly Dry



Materials

Size 14, 16 or 18 Dry Fly Hooks (Tiemco 100)

Cream or Tan Antron Dubbing for Body

#6.0 Brown Thread

Pheasant Tail Center Ribs Stripped of Feathers for Legs

Grizzly Hackle Feathers for Wings

Furnace or Brown Cock Hackle Feathers for Hackle

Strip the feathers off of the Pheasant Tails. You will need a mid-rib about 3-4 inches long. Make one overhand knot in each mid-rib to make a jointed leg. It is good to use the thicker part of the rib to put in your loop because it is easier to work with. You can try making 2 knots to create a leg with two joints, but this is more difficult. Trim the leg to an appropriate length for the hook size you are using.

Start by winding thread from the hook eye to the bend in the hook. Apply small amounts of dubbing and dub a thin tapered body up to mid-shank. Take 3 of your prepared crane fly legs. Tie them in along one side of the hook, just in front of the body, so that the legs extend past the hook bend. Snip off any excess at the tie in point. Rotate the vise to get to the other side of the hook, or turn your vise around to make the other side visible. Now tie in the other three legs. Trim.

Return to the other side of the hook. Select a grizzly tip for your wing. Tie it in at a 45-60 degree angle. Besides laying thread in front of the wings I sometimes tie behind the wing to set it more upright. Rotate or turn your vise around to tie in the other wing. Make sure they are balanced and at about the same angle.

Next tie in a small piece of brown cock hackle. Wind 3 or 4 times and secure with 3 wraps. Finally add small amounts of dubbing material to create a head and thorax. Create a thread head, whip finish and apply head cement.

Crane Fly Wet



Materials

Size 14, 16 or 18 Wet Fly or Nymph Hook

#6.0 Brown Thread

Cream or Tan Antron Dubbing for Body

Extra Fine Copper Wire for Segmentation

Pheasant Tail Center Ribs Stripped of Feathers for Legs and Knotted to Create Jointed Legs

Partridge Feather for Collar(if you don't have partridge use a grizzly hackle feather)

3/32 Bead for Head (I have used nickel or black, but you can try brass, copper, brown or gold.)

Put the bead on the hook. You will do better if you crimp down the barb to get the bead on. Start your thread behind the bead and tie back evenly to the bend in the hook. Cut a couple inch length of copper wire and tie it in at the bend. Dub in the antron and create a slender tapered body 2/3 of the length of the hook shaft. Wind the copper wire up the body and tie off with 3 ties. Add 3 prepared legs on one side of the body, so the legs go beyond the hook bend. Snip off the excess in the front. Rotate or turn around your vise. Tie in the other 2 jointed legs on the other side of the body. Take your partridge feather (the barbs should be 1 ½ to 2 times the width of the hook gap) and tie it in front of the legs. Make 2-3 turns of the feather and tie off with 3 thread ties. Whip finish.