

The Fly Tyer's Corner

Photos and Recipe by Captain Scott Hamilton

Hamilton's BAM (Big Ass Muddler) Shark Fly

Florida spinner shark season usually starts in early January and last through early April. As you know from the article in this newsletter on spinner sharks, Jim Gray, Brandon Rabke, and I went out along the Palm Beach coast hunting spinner sharks with Captain Scott Hamilton. Once Capt. Scott had lowered the chum bag over the side of the boat, he rigged up our 14 wts with his shark fly. He has described his fly as a large black and orange muddler. Since it was very effective with spinners, I would expect that Captain Scott's Shark Fly would perform well with other shark species. One caution when tying this fly, please be careful to wash your hands before tying it. Capt. Scott maintains that sharks will reject flies that have been tied

using super glue or other substances that could be detected by the shark. Sharks have a highly developed sense of smell. It has been stated that a shark can sense a drop of blood in a million drops of seawater. I guess that you might call sharks the bloodhounds of the sea. –Nils Pearson

Materials

Hook: Mustad 3407DT or SS 5/0

Thread: Nylon rod wrapping thread Sz. A or B or similar appropriate for spinning deer fur

Wing: Orange and Black saddle hackles six to eight inches in length

Collar: Schlappen in Orange and Black

Head: Orange/Black deer fur

Step 1: Add a thin coat of head cement on front half of hook shank. Starting at hook eye, wrap thread backwards towards hook bend half the length of hook shank. Further additions of glue/adhesives of any kind is pointless,(the sharks are going to wreck the fly anyhow) and will be detected and refused by the sharks.

Step 3: Just forward of the Black saddles, tie in six (6) Orange saddles, three on either side of hook.



Step 2: Tie in two (2) Black saddles, one on either side of hook,

Step 4: Tying in simultaneously a Black and Orange Schlappen feather, palmer a collar just in front of the orange saddles.



Fly Tyer's Corner Continued

Steps 5 & 6: There should be enough room left on the shank to add two spun bundles of deer fur, first Black, then Orange, leaving them untrimmed so as to push as much water as possible. (Sharks are extremely sensitive to vibration and water disturbances)



Picture 5



Picture 6

Step 7: Flatten barb with pliers and sharpen hook point



Picture 7