

Inherent-movement Designs

Maratube Series

Despite having created a number of very successful trout patterns, I've generally been content to fish the salmon patterns of others. The Maratube series is the principal exception. Although the concept is clearly derivative of West Coast Popsicles and other wound-marabou creations, it is the combination of this style with plastic tubes that sets them apart. While I tie a half-dozen variations, the Blae-'n'- Black Maratube has been by far the most effective, particularly, but not exclusively, under sunny skies. The Canary Maratube has proven the most productive under overcast conditions. The plastic tube lets these patterns swim a little higher in the water column when fished with sink- tip lines. Most consistent results to date are from Nova Scotia's fall rivers, but I've had pleasant surprises in other seasons and provinces.

Blae-'n'-Black Maratube



Hook: Talon Egg/Tube hook, sizes 6 and 8

Tube: 2" plastic swab or commercial plastic tube

Junction Tube: Model airplane gas line

Thread: Chartreuse 8/0 UNI-Thread

Body: UNI Axxel Flash, Rainbow Black

Wing: Four strands of Superfly Gold Holographic Flash

Hackle: Two blue behind two black Popsicle marabou feathers

1. If using a plastic swab create a lip at the rear with a lighter.
2. Tie in the thread and the Axxel Flash.
3. Bring the thread followed by the Axxel Flash about 2/3 of the way up the shank. Tie in the Holographic Flash.
4. Attach and wind the marabou plumes one at a time. Attach them by the butt.
5. Form a head and create a front lip. If the marabou plumes don't make it to the head area, simply cut before forming the front lip. Cement liberally.

Z-Muddler



Hook: Streamer 4XL, no. 4

Thread: Orange UNI BigFly for tubing and fur strip, 6/0 for the rest

Tail/Wing: Rabbit fur strip

Body: Super Pearl Mylar Tubing, medium

Collar/Head: Deer hair, spun and clipped

1. Size and cut tubing so as to leave a short section for a tail and some extra for shaping the body.

2. Slide tubing over the shank and tie-in above the hook point, secure with half-hitches or whip finish.
3. Shape body and secure leaving enough room for collar and head.
4. Tie-in the rabbit fur strip sized per the photo and tie-off the orange thread.
5. Reattach the orange thread at the rear and tie-down the rabbit strip. Finish the orange thread wraps and cement. Wetting the hair will make this step much easier.
6. Attach the 6/0 thread at the eye, wind back to the fur strip tie-in and spin a deer hair collar and head.