

## THE USUAL



### Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 10 - 16

Thread.....Tan/Camel/Brown/Pink 6/0

Tail.....Snowshoe Hare

Body.....Beige, Tan, or Amber Fine & Dry or Poly dubbing

Wing.....Snowshoe Hare

Head.....Thread

1. Crush the barb on the hook and place it in the vise. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a thread foundation over the front half of the hook shank. Return the thread to the  $\frac{1}{4}$  position on the hook shank and let it hang. This is the location where you will tie-in the comparadun style hair wing.
2. Clean a bundle of snowshoe hare hair about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the hook gap in thickness. (***This hair is from the bottom of foot of the snowshoe hare and is short and coarse, making it very hard to work with.***) Position it on **top of the hook shank** and tie it in so that **the tips extend forward** beyond the tie-in point (**the  $\frac{1}{4}$  point on the hook shank**) by one hook shank length. (This is very similar to tying in a bundled fiber wing post.) Bind down the butt ends with thread back to the halfway point on the hook shank, keeping the butts on top of the hook shank. Trim off any excess butts. Return the thread to the hair tie-in point.
3. Now lift the hair upright and build a thread ramp in front of the hair to make it stand upright. Hold the hair tightly with your left hand while you build the ramp to keep it on top of the hook shank. When you release the hair, it will start to flare to the sides of the hook shank. Use your fingers to preen the hair to the sides, forming a 180 degree arc over the top half of the hook shank. What will result is a “fan” of snowshoe hair over the top of the hook shank with no hair under the hook shank.
4. Wrap the thread back to the hook bend and tie-in another bundle of hair as a tail. Ensure that the hair stays on top of the hook shank. Bind down the butt end of the tail back to the butt of the wing. Trim off the excess tail butts. (**The tail should be one hook gap in length.**) Return the thread to tail tie-in point.

Over....>

5. Dub the thread and wrap a tapered abdomen and slightly enlarged thorax. When you reach the wing, crisscross the dubbed thread under the wing (**do not pull the dubbed thread too tightly when crisscrossing under the wing, as this will distort the wing fan**), then continue wrapping the dubbed thread to within 3 thread wraps of the hook eye. Remove any excess dubbing from the thread.
6. Form a small thread head, whip finish, cut the thread, and apply head cement (optional).