DEAD CADDIS

Recipe
Hook…….Wide gap Scud hook, size 12-16
Thread….Gray, 6/0 or 8/0
Body…….Muskrat natural fur dubbing (or equivalent) blended with cut deer hair
Wing…….Elk hair or fine deer hair
Antenna...Pheasant tail fibers
Head…….Dubbing

1. Attach the thread slightly behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to slightly past the hook bend.

2. Prepare some dubbing by cutting up some elk or deer hair into small pieces and blending them with gray muskrat dubbing. You can do this by hand or by using a coffee grinder. When you're done, you should have gray dubbing with different lengths of hair projecting from it.

3. Dub the thread and wrap a tapered body to slightly behind the hook eye. Remove the excess dubbing and let the thread hang.

4. Cut, clean, and stack a small bunch of elk or deer hair as a wing and tie it in on top of the hook shank at the end of the dubbed body. The hair tips should project back to or slightly past the hook bend with the hair butts projecting over the hook eye. ***DO NOT LET THE HAIR SPIN AROUND THE HOOK SHANK.*** Trim the hair butts even with the front of the hook eye and let the thread hang.

5. Cut 2 pheasant tail fibers to serve as antenna and tie one in on each side of the fly at the same point where you tied in the wing. The antenna should extend back past the tips of the wing but not be part of the wing. Trim off the fiber butts and let the thread hang.

6. Now dub the thread and wrap it forward over and through the hair butts to the back of the hook eye. Ensure that you cover the wing thread wraps with dubbing. Remove the excess dubbing and let the thread hang.

7. Do a whip finish right behind the hook eye, cut the thread, and apply head cement if desired.

Note: This fly purposely looks somewhat ragged with pieces of hair sticking out of the dubbing. Do not trim off these hairs as they are part of the fly - remember - this is a dead bug. It is best fished in a dead drift in slow current.

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward
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