

Fly Tying Bench— Sid Neff Caddis by Paul Sequira

Pennsylvania fly fisherman and fly tyer Sid Neff designed this easy to tie and very effective caddis imitation. It has proven to be very productive for me on streams from New York's Catskill and Adirondack Mountains to the many streams and rivers in the West Yellowstone area. Simple to tie, it uses only two materials, it floats well and the trout take it readily. This pattern and many others can be found in the book *The Caddis and The Angler* written by Eric Leiser and Larry Solomon and is an excellent guide to the important caddis families found in the United States and effective methods to fish them.Paul



Sid Neff Caddis tied and photo by Paul Sequira

Materials:

- Hook: Mustad 94840 or similar, sizes 12 to 20
- Thread: 6/0 brown waxed nylon
- Wing: brown/grey deer hair or any color to match local insects
- Body: dubbing to match the naturals. I like a natural fur such as muskrat for a dark body or Australian opossum in various shades for tan to light brown bodies or dyed to match the naturals.

Instructions:

1. Pinch the barb down and secure the hook in the vise. Attach the thread slightly more than a hook eye length behind the hook eye and wrap to the rear stopping at the bend.
2. Affix your dubbing to the thread laying a slightly tapered body on with a thicker profile at the head. Stop where you tied the thread on. Leave the front of the hook bare.
3. Select a small bunch of fine deer hair, about 20 to 25 hairs is sufficient.
4. Remove the fluff from the butts of the deer hair and even up the tips in a hair stacker.
5. Measure the hair to extend slightly beyond the hook bend and trim off the butts.
6. Attach the deer hair in front of the dubbed body with several tight wraps leaving a short stub of deer hair butts extending towards the hook eye. Keep the deer hair wing on top of the hook and slightly down each side of the fly. Since we are using only the tips of the deer hair, excessive flaring is generally not a problem. Take several more turns to secure the deer hair and whip finish.
7. Apply several coats of head cement to the thread wraps and the deer hair butts.

Note: This fly closely resembles the Troth Elk Hair Caddis, another excellent caddis imitation, lacking only a fine gold wire rib, a dark ginger hackle palmered through the body and replacing the deer hair with light tan elk hair for the wing.