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Z

James A. Greene
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proper@imt.net, 01:46 PM 07/05/2001 -0400, Happy to See You

20805-6455
owe you Thanks -
+ could send a
fly from my box

To: proper@imt.net
From: James Greene <jgreene@waterwisp.com>
Subject: Happy to See You
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

Datus and Anna;

Thanks much for your hospitality the other day. It was a real pleasure, Datus, to catch up with you after too long an interval and for Ros and me to meet Anna. What a great home and setting you all have!!

As promised, I'm mailing a packet of Waterwisp-style hooks today. Around 2 years ago - July '99, I believe - Dick Talleur ran a piece about tying Waterwisp-style flies in his American Angler column.

Please let me know how the flies work for you and what you tie with the hooks. (Any time you would like to spare a Perfect Dun, I have just the place for it.)

By the way, you were right. Skues's water was the Itchen, mainly at Abbots Barton, I think, until very late in his life when he fished the Nadder. I think that he met Frank Sawyer after leaving the Itchen. Unless my memory is bad - and it often is - Sawyer was at that time keeper of the Officers' Association water on the upper Avon.

Be well, you two and let's stay in touch. Ros joins in sending warm regards.

Tight lines.

Jim

Jim Greene

<jgreene@waterwisp.com>

Try tying a few flies on there
& seeing how they hook. Then send
letter/e-mail to Jim.



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- **What makes Waterwisp flies different from other so-called upside-down flies?**
- **Does the hackle interfere with hooking?**
- **Is an upturned Waterwisp hook more likely to injure a fish than a conventional hook?**
- **What's the best way to hook a fish with Waterwisp dry flies?**
- **How do I revive a sinking Waterwisp?**
- **Why not use liquid floatant on a Waterwisp?**

Q: **What makes Waterwisp flies different from other so-called upside-down flies?**

A: Three special features. First, other "upside-down" flies have the hackle at the eye of the fly. Waterwisp flies have the hackle tied to the bend of the hook. Second, the eye of the Waterwisp fly is vertical, to help reduce microdrag. Third, the shank of the Waterwisp hook is angled for balance and to imitate an insect body sitting in the surface film.

Q: **Does the hackle interfere with hooking?**

A: No. The Waterwisp hook is specially designed to accommodate hackle **and** retain hooking power.

Q: **Is an upturned Waterwisp hook more likely to injure a fish than a conventional hook?**

A: No. There hasn't been a single reported case of a Waterwisp hook penetrating the roof of a trout's mouth.

Q: **What's the best way to hook a fish with Waterwisp dry flies?**

A: Slow down your strike. Because Waterwisps look so much like live insects, fish tend to sip rather than attack them. Waterwisps work best when fished in the classical manner: a brief pause before setting the hook, then a gentle lift of the rod tip.

Q: **How do I revive a sinking Waterwisp?**

A: First, wash any fish slime off the fly and dry it in a fold of your shirt, a paper towel or a piece of chamois or amadou. Then dip the fly in a dry powder desiccant like Top Ride or Dry Shake. However, **don't ever use liquid or paste floatant on Waterwisp flies.**

Q: **Why not use liquid floatant on a Waterwisp?**

A: The body of most Waterwisp flies is made of cul-de-canard, the naturally oil-impregnated feather from around the preening gland of ducks. Most paste or liquid floatants will mat the cul-de-canard and reduce its natural floatability. However, a couple of "permanently" waterproofing agents now on the market appear to work even on cul-de-canard.