

March 2021

## Sucker Spawn Fly

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A friend introduced me to the “Sucker Spawn” fly several years ago. It was mid to late April, and he wanted me to get him into some of our spring run steelhead. The water was just the way I like it, high (difficult wading), dropping, and clearing and right about in line with the smelt and sucker runs. My friend had his 9-foot 7wt fly rod rigged with floating line and an indicator. We discussed what to use and he had these flies that he called sucker spawn in his fly box. They were dressed in the right colors for the conditions we had.

In the first spot I had him fish, he hooked 3 fish. I have always carried these with me in the spring since then. The same techniques apply for me when I am fishing the “flats” in the rocks. I use an unweighted fly with weight about 18” above the fly. My “Glo Bug” yarn in my favorite spring colors work great. There are many variations of materials, colors, and sizes of this fly, so you can experiment. It is a very quick tie.



### **Recipe**

1. *Hook: Anything in size 4 – 6, such as a Gamakatsu or egg hook for steelhead.*
2. *Thread: I prefer Danville 210 in orange or yellow.*
3. *Body: 3 thinner strands of egg white, yellow, Oregon cheese yarn.*
4. *Start thread at eye and wrap to bend of hook, tie in the 3 strands at the same time (I twist the 3 strands together).*
5. *Use your bodkin to push the strands back to form a small bubble (or loop) and tie off. Repeat the process, forming bigger bubbles as you progress forward and then smaller ones at the head of the fly. Tie off, snip the strands past the eye, and whip finish.*