

## Strike Indicator Fly... Tom Regina

How many times have you been nymphing and the trout seem more interested in the strike indicator than your nymph? And you thought, “%#&\*, I wish I had a hook imbedded in that indicator.” Well with the high floating Strike Indicator Fly you can have the hook and the fish can eat it too.

### Tying Materials

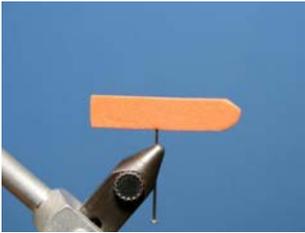
**Hook:** Mustad dry fly R43, 2XF, 2XL, size 8  
**Thread:** 6/0 orange  
**Body:** 2mm orange closed cell foam sheet strip  
**Adhesive:** Cyanoacrylate, i.e. Zap-A-Gap or Super Glue  
**Wing:** Orange and yellow Polypropylene floating yarn  
**Legs:** Orange, size medium, round rubber leg material



### Tying Instructions



1. Debarb and fit the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread on the hook at the hook eye. Let the bobbin hang at the thread tie-on point and spin it counterclockwise to untwist and flatten the thread. In neat touching turns, wrap the thread back to a point directly above the hook barb. In touching wraps take the thread forward to a position halfway between the hook barb and the hook point. Spin the bobbin counterclockwise to flatten the thread.



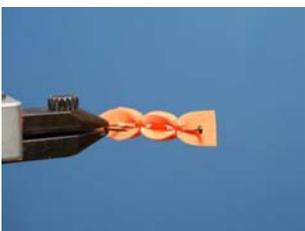
2. Cut a 1 ¼-inch length strip from a sheet of 2mm closed cell foam. The width of the strip should be equal to the hook gap. Trim the strip to the shape pictured.



3. At the rear thread hang point tie the foam body to the top of the hook with the “U” shaped body segment extending over the back of the hook bend. *Note: To prevent the thread from cutting through the foam, flatten the thread and use several light overlapping thread wraps to start the body tie-on. Finish the foam tie-on with several tight overlapping thread wraps.* Lift the front of the foam strip and take one or two thread wraps around the hook directly in front of and adjacent to the foam tie-on point. Spin the bobbin counterclockwise to flatten the thread. Wrap the thread forward in neat touching turns to a distance about ¼-inch back from the hook eye. Flatten the thread again.



4. At the forward thread hang point tie the front of the thorax segment to the top of the hook in the same manner as was the “U” shaped segment. Lift the tag end of the foam strip and take one or two thread wraps around the hook in front of and adjacent to the thorax tie-down thread wraps. Whip finish or half hitch the thread and cut the thread away.



5. Apply a small amount of Zap-A-Gap to the underside of the body segment tie-on thread wraps and to the thread wraps and foam of the underside of the thorax. Allow the adhesive to dry.

## Strike Indicator Fly.... Tom Regina (continued)



6. Being careful not to cut the thread wraps cut the tag end of the foam strip into a short arrow point.



7. Directly over the thorax tie-down thread wraps, tie the thread back onto the fly and bind the “arrow” point to the hook forming a neat evenly tapered under-head.



8. Cut a 2-inch length of yellow and orange Polypropylene yarn from the skeins. *Note: The cut lengths of yarn are tied on extending forward over the hook eye, then folded back and tied down bullet-head-style to form the head and wings.* Tie one length of yarn to each side of the hook directly over the under-head. *Caution: Do not allow the yarn to “creep” under the hook as you tie it on.* Bind the yarn down all the way to the hook eye. Take the thread back to the front of the thorax.



9. Fold the yarns back over the fly body and tie them down directly in front of and adjacent to the thorax. You may find it advantageous to fold and tie down each bunch of yarn separately. Again, do not allow the yarn to creep under the hook. Flatten the thread.



10. Cut two 3-inch lengths of round rubber from the skein for the legs. Directly over the head/wing tie-down thread wraps, tie one set of legs to each side of the hook. Whip finish or half hitch the leg tie-on thread wraps and cut away the thread. Apply a small amount of head cement to the leg tie-on thread wraps. Cut each of the four legs to equal the length of the fly, or cut them to desired length at the river.

*Note: Treating the Strike Indicator Fly with a floatant such as Hareline Dubbing’s Water Shed or Loon’s Hydrostop at least 24 hours before using the fly will ensure it floats high-and-dry and supports moderately heavy nymphs.*

## **Fishing The Everglades National Park**

Submitted by Brandon Simmons – member of the Arkansas Fly Fishers

Fishing the Everglades National Park at the southern tip of Florida begins well before dawn. A daisy chain of skiff boats headed south converges in Homestead and makes a sharp turn towards the Park- the largest sub-tropical wilderness park in the US. But not without a pit stop at Diane’s gas station, a fueling grounds for fishing guides and their sports. We admire each others skiff boats under the fluorescent lights.

Once at the park entrance, you can’t help but read the ‘Mosquito Level: High’ sign and quixotically wonder at the system for calibrating such lethal metrics. Your guide offers a practical means of defense: spray DEET (40%) before you step out of the vehicle. Another suggestion: Don’t open the windows.

The drive from the park entrance to the sea-side marina is longer than anticipated, and straight as an arrow. That is, until a sharp 90-degree curve wakes you from your eerie surroundings. The angular curve has historic meaning- it is the namesake which gave Flip Pallot his moniker after rolling his tailored skiff there over 30 years ago. The thick vegetation swallows the two-lane blacktop which leads to the only Marina in the park: Flamingo Bay Marina. The marina is similar to a golf course club-house. And, like a golf course, the park is divided into two sections: a front (nine) and a back (nine). Today we choose the open flats surrounding the front of the park.

As the sun ascends from below the Atlantic we glide onto the flats of Florida Bay. A flat is an expanse of shallow water, generally between ankle and knee deep. Our arrival coincides with an incoming tide. The influence of fresh water is to our advantage. The aquarium-clear water is full of abrupt noises: Lemon Sharks hunt in splashy ‘S’ curves, mullet