



# Rx Fly Fishing!

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

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## Calendar

January 1---Mokelumne Outing on New Years Day(John H.) Food--Earl, Larry, Jim

January 8-11---ISE Show Sacramento

January 10--outing to Yuba River (Bob Fujimura)

January 14--General Meeting

January 19--MLK DAY

January 21--BOD

January 24--Annual Dinner (Bruce and Charlie)

February 11--General Meeting

February 16--Presidents' Day

February 18--BOD

February 19-22--Pleasanton Show

February 28--Lower Stanislaus River Float from Knights Ferry to Horseshoe Bend (Mike N)

## January outings and the installation dinner are coming

By President Gil

Delta Fishers, here we are on the edge of 2014 about to cast our lines in 2015. December has been everything we could hope for with good continuous rains almost every

week. As we all know, our Sierra's need the snow pack and I can't remember when I have seen so many people smiling under umbrellas. We are hardly out of the woods

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## Restore the Delta head, Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, to speak at January meeting

Our speaker this month is Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, Executive Director of Restore the Delta. Barbara will bring us up to date what is currently going on in the Delta. Restore the Delta is a grassroots organization made up of Delta residence's,

business leaders, civic organizations, community groups, faith-based communities, union locals, farmers, fisherman, and environmentalist. Come to the meeting and find out what's really happening in the Delta.

### Barbara's message for 2015:

2014 has been the busiest year on record at Restore the Delta.

In addition to facilitating 3 dozen press conferences for media outlets from throughout the state and the nation, Restore the Delta staff have:

Given over 1000 interviews to newspaper, radio and television reporters;

Participated extensively in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan comment process;

Trained dozens of advocates to respond to the BDCP;

Gave hundreds of talks to thousands of Californians regarding the Delta and water management in California;

Wrote and distributed 150 press releases;

Created a social media campaign that has reached hundreds of thousands of Californians;

Held nearly 100 visible rallies and public events;

And have created a successful advocacy campaign to slow down bad Federal legislation for the Delta.

More importantly, our work has been highly accurate. While proponents of the Delta tunnels and accelerated water exports

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will criticize us, they have never made a public statement indicating that our factual representations are wrong.

However, 2015 is shaping up to be an even busier year. We understand that the BDCP Environmental Impact Report will be re-circulated for public comment over an accelerated time period. New committee hearings will begin in January so as to push for accelerated water exports from the Delta. And the labyrinth of Delta processes, programs and state agencies will continue to need constant watch dogging so that they cannot set the stage for the construction of the Delta tunnels or facilitate a water grab from the Bay-Delta estuary and Northern California rivers.

We are at a critical point in our campaign. We need to secure 2015 funding so that our talented staff and media team can continue the fight for the protection of our Delta farming and fishing communi-

ties, our coastal communities, our rivers, and the health of the estuary. We need to expand our media outreach capacity in order to influence processes and to win the battle in the court of public opinion and with decision makers at this crucial juncture.

You have responded to our call for help in the past by regularly making donations, renewing your membership, attending our rallies, signing our petition, and more. We are grateful for your support in helping us raise awareness and opposition against the tunnels in California.

This is why I am asking you to consider making a year-end gift to Restore the Delta. We know how to stretch our dollars for maximum impact; but we need increased and stable funding to keep up the fight during this crucial period.

I know you are well aware of the impacts if this plan is enacted. It will result in the

destruction of the largest estuary on the Pacific Coast of the Americas, our coastal fisheries from Monterey to southern Washington, as well as our local agriculture and recreational economies – all because the tunnels will deprive the Delta of the freshwater that it needs to thrive. For you and me, it will be the end of the Delta as we know it. But, can you imagine what will happen to the future for our children and grandchildren whose economic and environmental well-being will be tied to a collapsed Bay-Delta estuary?

Please make a financial contribution to help us win the fight. Let's stop the Delta tunnels once and for all. And let's make sure that water quality and quantity levels are protected for the estuary.

If you have already made a year end donation, thank you SO much for your support.

## Putah Creek, a legend in the making

*"Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught."*

Anonymous

Almost three years ago, Steve Karr, president of Putah Creek Trout (PCT), requested a grant from Northern California Council International Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCIFFF) to help with research they were doing on Putah Creek. Putah Creek flows eastward from the coast range in Lake and Napa counties to the Yolo Bypass, there it flows into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. PCT is an outstanding group of fly fishers who have worked long and hard to maintain and improve Putah Creek and its trout fishing. In early December, the Sacramento Bee announced that Putah Creek has been granted "Wild Trout Stream" status by the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). CDFW studied the area for 6 years to make sure the population of

costal rainbow are self-sustaining before granting Putah Creek the Wild Trout Stream designation. Karr is delighted with the classification since it will ensure that Putah Creek will always remain a healthy environment for the fish and also help the economy for the area.

The commissioners of CFDW also designated Putah Creek a "Trophy Trout Water" which means that the trout will often be larger than 18 inches and can be caught on a regular basis. The creek can be fished 12 months a year, with barbless hooks only, and all fish must be released.



Putah Creek and Lodi have been made famous by Creedence Clearwater Revival by their song's in the late 1960's "Stuck in Lodi" and "Green River". Green River refers to Putah Creek's algae problems. Putah Creek is the only Wild Trout Stream near the Delta area and adjacent the Greater San Francisco-Sacramento areas. This includes

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13 counties. The area designated includes all of Lake Solano and 4 1/2 miles upstream to Lake Berryessa. Karr also commented, "We have caught fish 30 inches long. They are just huge, larger than some salmon". These fish can be caught all year round in that size range. It's felt that the fish are so large because they benefit from the cold water flow from Monticello Dam and the food provided by both the creek and its stream side environment.

Most of us remember the Center for Biological Diversity suit against the CDFG for planting stocked fish and not assessing the damage their program was having on native fish populations and other species. Although many fisherman were unhappy with the suit, the litigation directly resulted in the current status of Putah Creek being a Wild Trout Stream and a Trophy Trout Water. Perhaps the club might want to plan an outing to the creek. Catching a 30 inch trophy trout, less than an hour and a half from, Stockton would be fun.

A Major Win for our Fisheries and Delta

On December 22, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a US District Court decision involv-

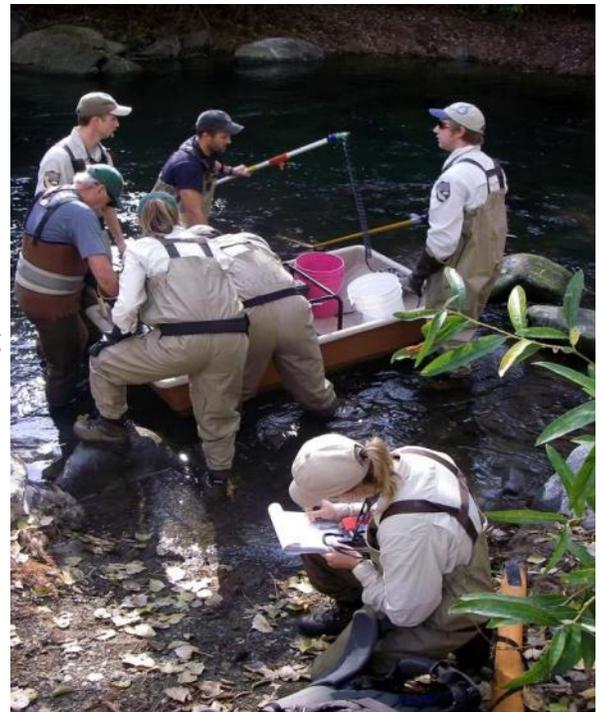
ing government agencies and environmental groups trying to save our fisheries and the Delta. In 2009, state water contractors and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) sued the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) about complying with NMFS's Bio-

logical Opinion. The BOR's proposed water plan for the federal Central Valley Project would negatively impact threatened or endangered species. However, the US District Court ruled the NMFS had violated the federal Administrative Protection Acts by "using arbitrary or capricious standards when developing their Biological Opinion". The Court of Appeals however, found the NMFS Biological Opinion "was reasonable and supported by the record therefore, the 3 judge panel upheld the Biological Opinion in its entirety". Kate Poole, litigation Director for Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) said, "Today's ruling

does not change operations in the Delta but confirms that these protections are based on the best science available and comply with the law. The effect of California's drought cannot be blamed on protected fish and mammals. It's good to see the 9th Circuit recognizes that science, not politics, should guide our management of water flows."

Both Earth Justice and NRDC represented 9 interveners including the NCCIFFF.

Ron Forbes  
Conservation Chair



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## Yuba above Highway 20 bridge is the target for the January outing

Preparations are going well for the January 10<sup>th</sup> outing to the UC Davis Ranch property to the Lower Yuba River. We have 15 confirmed members who have signed up and two members who are tentative or have not confirmed at this time (Dec 27<sup>th</sup>).

Therefore we have at least two openings for other members who want to participate.

Anyone who wants to attend should contact host Bob Fujimura ASAP since there are some pre-outing requirements. We are asking for \$5 per



member this year since UCD are requiring a \$90 use fee for these outings and 2015 liability waivers on file. Hot lunch will be provided by Bob and Jean Fujimura. Bob has already sent out a detailed

instructions and orientation information for this event and plans to send out the attendee list and current fishing report before this event. River flows and conditions are looking good at this time – base flows at < 800 cfs and little or no rain forecasted for the preceding week.

## Membership Update

Beginning of the New Year is a time for resolutions and goals for the future. Recent analysis of our 2015 membership roster suggests new challenges and priorities for our club. We currently have 94 memberships which are the first time in recent history that our club has dropped below 100 memberships. Most of non-renewing members have been members who have joined within the last three years. The governing officers of our club are actively discussing ways to address these recent declines in membership. But attracting and retaining new members is something that every current member can make a difference - just by using a small amount of effort. We are often the only point-of-contact for the public – are we talking positively or frequently about our club to friends and

strangers. Saying hello and introducing yourself to our meeting guests makes a huge positive impression. Interacting with and helping novice members are key factors for keeping new fly anglers interested in the sport.

Ricky Ortiz of Stockton is our newest member to our club. Ricky will be attending the Lower Yuba River outing. Tony Ott and Gene Takeuchi are our most recent renewing members. Please say hello to these new or returning members. Reminder that we have new member and referring member discounts or credits so ask Membership Chair Bob Fujimura about these incentives when new members join or referring others to the club.



### DDF Officers

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Secretary	
Karen Keagy	
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Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
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Ron Forbes	209-368-5767
Jerry Neuburger	209-369-5752
Larry Schmidt	209-482-8742
Bob Fujimura	209-339-0683
Gil Parker	209 951-7154
Earl Summers	209-957-6756
Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
Steve VonBerg	209-327-6161

### Committees

Bob McMillan Trout Bout	
Steve Cooper	209-956-1032
Catfish Derby (June)	
Earl Summers	209-957-6756
Conservation/NCCFFF	
Ron Forbes	209-368-5767
Education	
Joe Balderston	209-649-0291
Fishing Mentor Program	
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Trout Bout (November)	
Charlie Reames	209-642-6704
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yet, and our drought has only moved from 1st in worst ever to about the fourth worst ever. It's important to keep your water conservation plans in effect, we have a long ways to go yet. In the two months, that I have been President, we have filled all our board vacancies and in addition, have a President, Vice President, and a Treasurer. At our last board meeting we compiled a list of Goals for 2015. Our January Board Mtg will be about developing plans of implementing those goals. Steve Von Berg, Mike Nicolson and myself presented the board with the 1st Draft of our Outings Schedule for 2015. Look for a couple new outings to be on the schedule this year, such as the Stanislaus River float in February, with Mike N. fishmeistering.

Our Annual New Year's Day fish on the Moke is the first outing for 2015. Don't forget to buy your 2015 Fishing License before Jan 1. The three tight line amigos, Earl S., Larry S, and Jim R will be providing a simple lunch menu. Joe B. will Fishmeister again this year. Those of you that are new ask Joe how to rig up and what flies to use. So fishing and lunch is a pretty tempting enticement, just the remedy for a good hangover. Just beyond that we have the Jan 10th, Yuba River outing for 18 lucky fishermen who signed up, to fish the private area owned by UC Davis. This is a once a year treat granted to us from our friends at UCD. The sign ups our over but if interested, shoot Bob Fujimura an email to [Deltaflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:Deltaflyfishers@gmail.com) for any cancelations.

Last but not least, Our Annual 2015 Dinner, is scheduled for January 24th at the Moose Lodge. Tickets will not be sold on the night of the Dinner, so be sure to buy in advance. Everyone has been emailed and or mailed a ticket reservation. All info has been released on this event but should you have a question please contact Charlie R. or Bruce R. The Moose Lodge has required a head count prior to the dinner. If you have tickets, remember we have a no host bar and a \$10 corkage fee for all privately owned wines will be charged by the Moose Lodge. I look forward to seeing you all there. We should have a great auction and a lot of fun.  
Gil Parker  
President of DFF

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Start off the New Year by Joining other Members of the club  
At Van Assen Park On the Mokelumne On

## New Year's Day.

Coffee, donuts, hot dogs, Beans and other good eats!

Come prepared to fish or just to tell a few fish tales.

IF YOU PLAN TO FISH, DON'T FORGET  
**YOUR 2015 FISHING LICENSE**

## Rx Fly Fishing! Advertising Rates

2 column inches each newsletter issue for the year for \$400, six months \$200, quarter \$100, one month \$40. The ad may include artwork and will link to the advertiser's website.

Additional column inches of ad space may be purchased at \$200 for the year, \$100 for six months, \$50 for a quarter year, \$20 per month.

### Included:

A similar ad on our website monthly articles equal to the number of newsletter advertising months. (App. Two per month.)

A digital subscription to the club's monthly newsletter.

Permission to post specials and other advertising on the club's Face book page, 2 per month.

For additional information please phone or e-mail [Jerry Neuburger](mailto:Jerry.Neuburger), Editor 209-369-5752

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