

## In this Issue

Page 2—<u>If you're a new member</u>, we have something special for you!

Page 2—<u>A brief report on the April</u> 23, Kelsey fish out

Page 2—<u>Raffle prizes needed for</u> June Barbecue

Page 3—June at Lake Davis, a fun outing where fish actually play an important part of the show

Page 4 -<u>The Delta Fly Fishers his-</u> tory in conservation is long and deep

Pate 5—<u>The Calaveras Fly Fishers</u> <u>One Fly Contest to be held May</u> <u>11th, a DFF favorite. Come join the</u> <u>fun!</u>

Page 6—Eastern Sierra Focus

Page 7—<u>American River shad out-</u> ing scheduled for May 25th

#### Calendar

May 8, 2013 General Membership Meeting

<mark>May 11, 2013</mark> One Fly Contest, Calaveras Fly Fishers (Bob Fujimura, Fishmeister)

May 15, 2013 DFF Board Meeting

May 22, 2013 Fly of the Month Session, Details TBA

May 25, 2013 American River (Shad)

May 31- June 1, 2013 NCCFFF Board and GM Meeting, Camp McCumber <u>www.nccfff.org</u>

#### President's Message by Marty Kjelson

Hello, fellow flyfishers!

Spring is finally here and the bass are biting, including stripers, so I hear. We are fortunate to be able to enjoy our great outdoors, year around. I was reminded of that as my wife, Lockey, and I flew east to see family in N.C. and had a layover in Minneapolis where their urban lake weres frozen and snow covering the ground. Mid April!

We had a nice trip including taking my three grandsons fishing for largemouth bass in some farm ponds nearby. They all out fished me with rubber worms against my clousers on the flyrod. I got quite a bit of gas about that! Our eight year caught the largest at 8 pounds. I claimed the water was too cold for my flies. Did see a mature bald eagle which was a real treat, along with other bird species common to the east.

Back to home waters and the club. We are looking forward to some great events in May and reports of our Kelsey ranch and Pyramid lake adventures which should be good. Thanks to Al Smatsky and Larry Mettler for leading those outings. May 8th will have the Fly Shop in Redding share about fly fishing those great trout waters to the north, while May 11th will see us in the one fly contest in Arnold. Don't miss it! It is a great time to meet new folks and to fish some placid waters that provide good rainbow fun. Also Charlie Reams and I are looking into American Shad and surf perch fishing this month. More on that soon.

Thanks for all those that volunteered to lead the remaining outing in 2013. We only need someone for the lower Sac this fall. We also have some interest in one of our members chairing the outing program. Encouraging On another positive note, Our Board and officers showed great interest and support to making our June BBQ and raffle a great success



once again. We will be asking all members to help in donating fly fishing items for the raffle to supplement what we purchase. Please look through your stash of items and/ or plan to tie some of your favorite patterns to share. Give me or John Highsmith our vice president a call about what you could donate. Thanks in advance.

The Board has developed a policy that those attending our outings must be members and sign our release waiver form in advance. This is a sound position and helps to make our club on sound footing for a number or reasons. If any have questions give one of our leaders a call.

Finally, "One's first fish on a fly" as shared with Harvey Hamlow. You know Harvey, the young guy that always outfishes us with a fly he can't tell you what it is, how he uses it, or why the fish flock to it! He seems to be a master of keeping his secrets even though he isn't trying to keep them secret! Anyway, his first trout on a fly was out of the upper Mokelumne off Highway 4 where his dad took him bait fishing. Harvey, being the high class guy he was/is, said I want to fish with flies. So dad got a telescopic steel flypole, ug, in his hands and the rest is history. He said he used some kind of wet fly ( note the clever secret) using a reel w/o drag and managed to catch that 6' brookie. For sure with a huge battle up and down that 3 ' wide stream/brook.

See you on the water. Marty

## If you're a new member, we have something special for you!

#### Wednesday May 1 at 6:30 pm

(sharp) at the Nature Center, Oak Grove Regional Park, 4520 W. Eight Mile Rd., Stockton, CA 95209

Come meet the new members of the Delta Fly Fishers this Wednesday evening or if you are a new member or recently joined member. The officers are planning a causal evening to introduce our new members to other club members and learn more about our club. After introductions, new members will be encouraged to pose questions to the other club members and watch or take part in breakout sessions or demonstrations. Long-standing members are welcome to meet and introduce themselves to these new members.

Call Bob Fujimura at 339-0683 for more information and if the park entrance gate is closed go through

## Raffle prizes needed for June Barbecue

#### By Steve VonBerg

Is your spouse giving you "the look" when you bring home your latest fishing

purchase? The officers of the Delta Fly Fishers need your help to obtain prizes for our big raffle at the Annual BBO in June at Oak Grove Park. We need donations of unused or good condition used fly fishing gear, boxes of flies, fishing clothing, fly tying

gear or materials, gift certificates for guide or mentoring services, fishing gag items, fly fishing books and artwork.

This raffle is the biggest of the year outside of our annual dinner, the highlight of the BBQ and great fun for the participants. It is also one of the major income-



makers for the club's operating budget. So please clean out your stash of unused fishing stuff, contribute to the evening's entertainment, and help the club finance the many activities and services that we are famous for. If you

please contact John Highsmith at (209) 369-3251 by May 29.

# No Fly of the Month tying session for May

(but you might spend a little time cranking out some shad flies)

### A brief report on the April 23, Kelsey fish out

#### By Al Smatsky

Windy, windy conditions but the enthusiasm of the thirteen (13) Delta Fly Fishers did not fade. Everyone had an excellent time, everyone caught black bass, Grady Lee said he landed 14 bass with many over 5 lbs on the "Redrider", despite the wind, Steve von Berg pounded out 9 on poppers.

After a very disappointing morning of one mishap after another, John and Karen Keagy were introduced to a small pond that put a smile back on their faces. While we were having lunch, Mike Thomas's 8 year old daughter caught 3 black bass on a rubber worm within site of the hungry crew, it didn't take long for everyone to eat and get back on the water.

I did not get a chance to get a final count from everyone since some of them left while I was on the lake.

#### Now you can access the club's website and the club's Facebook page right from the newsletter!

Home **Article Index** Calendar Who We Are Conservation **Newsletter Membership Contact Us Outings Delta Challenge Fly of the Month Classes & Clinics Photo Gallery Mentor Program** Sponsors&Links **DFF Facebook Page** 

# June at Lake Davis, a fun outing where fish actually play an important part of the show

#### June 13 – 16 – LAKE DAVIS

#### By Herman Spalinger

Our Lake Davis outing is the secondmost popular Sierra mountain outing after Bridgeport. For the newcomers, it is closer than Bridgeport (2 hours from Sacramento) and boasts many large "hot" rainbows every year. Built in 1966, Davis is a relatively shallow reservoir accessible year round with great fly fishing from late March until freezeover in late December and early January. The shallow coves on the west side of the lake are accessible not only by float tube or pontoon boats, canoe or kayak, but by thrashing the shoreline early morning and late evening wading where the fish can be seen cruising the shallows looking for minnows or damsel flies during May and June. May-June-early July is the most exciting time of the year to fish during the damsel fly hatch that brings 14 inch to 6 or 7 pound rainbows into the shallows where they surface cruise for the nymphs and sometimes adults. The fishing can be nerve wracking with the "bows" chasing the nymphs into the shore around your offering.

FLIES Small midges various color larvae and pupae, size 12 - 20. (Fish 18 to 24 inches below your bobber)

Wooly and crystal buggers in black, olive or dark brown, size 8 – 16. (Unweighted nymphs are preferred)

Sheep Creek Specials, Pheasant Tails, Prince nymphs, Stimulators can also work as the bite slows down.

TACKLE 4 to 6 wt rods and lines. Longer rods are easier to cover more water. Intermediate and floating lines (in that order) are preferred. Nine foot leaders with 3X to 5X tippet is recommended. (Note: The wind can be nasty at afternoon times so have an anchor available.) If you have a rubber boat with oars, it should be low to the water as the wind has been known to blow boats or float tubes across the lake!

Campgrounds & RV parks: (To re-

serve a US Forest Service Campground, call 877-444-6777 or go to www.recreation.gov)

The economy has not been kind to Portola so eatries are few and far between as well as motels. An alternative is Graeagle (www.graeagle.com) which is about a half hour's drive west on Hwy 70 and south on Hwy 89 with a few more motels and food choices.

J & J's Grizzly Store, Campground and Resort (530) 832-0270 Lake Davis 34 sites, RV, tents, 2 camping cabins, showers, flush toilets, piped water, dump station, restaurant and store, open all year. (Yummie softie ice cream cones in the afternoon)

#### **RV SITES**

Sleepy Hollow Park - (530) 832-5914 - 3810 Grizzly Rd, Portola -40 sites, RV, full hookups. (Grizzly Rd is east road off Hwy 70 to the lake) I will be located in Sleepy Hollow Park. (If cell service available in RV park - 209-938-9736.) Trails West Trailer Park (530) 832-5074 - 73561 Highway 70, (west of Portola)

20 RV sites full hookups, Showers, flush toilets, laundry facility, Open all year

Motels (See Plumas County Recreation site for more information)

Lake Davis Resort (530) 832-1060 -Lake Davis Road, Lake Davis, quarter mile from the dam at the south end of the lake. 4 cabins, 8 motel rooms plus suite with optional spa, fridges/ microwaves, coffeemakers, TVs. Average rates: Cabins: \$98 to \$192/night. Motel rooms: \$67 to \$86/night.

DIRECTIONS: East off I-5 or Hwy 99 on I-80. Go past Truckee to Hwy 89/267 turnoff. North on Hwy 89 to Sierraville. Turn left on 89 & north to just before Stattley. Turn right on A23 & follow to Hwy 70 turn left and follow signs to Lake Davis or Portola.



## The Delta Fly Fishers history in conservation is long and deep

#### The last word in ignorance is the man who says of plant or animal: "What good is it? .....Aldo Leopold

#### Who we are

The December Board of Directors (BOD) meeting of Delta Fly Fishers (DFF) is important since we determine the club's budget for the upcoming year. At that meeting there was some concern we might be facing a financial short-fall . Unfortunately I was unable to attend that meeting. At the January meeting I was informed the Conservation budget had been cut. After some discussion however, it was reinstated to its 2012 level. However, during the December BOD meeting an opinion had been voiced that the conservation budget should be eliminated entirely and DFF should let other groups take care of fisheries issues. We are, after all, "just a fishing club" and our money shouldn't go to other clubs supporting conservation of our fisheries. Unfortunately, the attitude of "let somebody else do it" is too common in many fly fishing clubs. Fortunately, this attitude reflects neither our past history nor our clubs current attitude toward conservation.

On our homepage, Delta Fly Fishers, Inc., we list our mission under the title "Who We Are". Under the purposes and goals for DFF, 5 of the 6 points are about conservation. The sixth goal is to "actively participate in restoration projects through donations of time and monies". Conservation is just one part of who we are and what we are about. We are also strong in outings, membership support, fly tying, classes and clinics, our mentor program, the Delta Challenge, and in our public outreach (such as Trout Bouts, catfish Derby's and Stockton's Steelhead Festival). To expect us to remain a successful, appealing organization, we have to continue to fulfill our responsibilities, especially in conservation.

I started fishing and backpacking when I was 10. Over the last 63 years I have seen our fisheries continually degraded to the point where many fish populations are now extinct. If we lose the Delta in the current dual conveyance battle, the salmonid population will also become extinct. Before our Gold Rush era, it's estimated that California had somewhere between 4 and 5 million acres of wetlands. Today more than 95% of our wetlands have disappeared. Over 90% of our riparian passages have been either highly degraded or modified to the point where they can't function as they did in the past. Sadly, the Smith River is the only unmodified river left in the entire state of California.

We need to take some lessons from another sportsman group, Ducks Unlimited (DU). Over 15 years ago, there was a massive outbreak of botulism in Northern California. Some estimated the loss of ducks exceeded 70% of the total population. At present there is no known way of preventing botulism. The bacterial spores of Clostridium botulinum lay in the sediments in most of the wetlands. Dabbling birds, such as ducks or shore birds stir up the spores and the ducks ingest them. At this point the spores are not toxic. If the duck is wounded, has a broken wing or somehow dies, flies lay their eggs on the carcass. The maggots eat the spores and concentrate the toxin. Other ducks then eat the toxic maggots and die. DU realized that they might not only lose a duck season, but if a serious outbreak of botulism occurred the next season, the flyway could be damaged beyond repair. Taking a pro active approach, DU purchased 1,000's of acres of wetlands in Alberta and created enhanced nesting areas for the ducks. The duck population was restored because of DU's efforts. Although "catch and release" is not DU's strong suit, conservation is. Much to their credit, DU is responsible for conserving well over 700,000 acres of wetlands and has over 1,300 conservation projects in California alone. They know that no one else will step forward to protect their sport for them. We can learn from them.

Delta Fly Fishers has a long history of protecting our fisheries and fishing environment. We have successfully instigated legal actions against East Bay MUD and most recently supported efforts by the Foothill Conservancy to prevent East Bay from raising the height of Pardee Dam. When I first joined DFF, I attended a meeting in Linden held by Stockton East Water District who claimed they didn't have to meet certain environmental standards because there are no steelhead in the Calavares River. One of our members stepped forward to dispute their claim. Because of his and others action, steelhead are a recognized species in the Calavares. Recently DFF were asked to be co-intravenors, along with NCCFFF, in the lawsuit between Earth Justice and Modesto Water District and four other water districts to protect the Central Valleys steelhead population. I asked Earth-Justice's attorney why we were being asked to join the suit he remarked it was because of DFF's conservation history. Within the last year, fishing clubs, including DFF presented arguments against the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta to preserve our striper fishery. Because of our efforts DFFers have, and will continue to make a difference in conservation issues. As a club we can be proud of our conservation history.

California is now facing what is the most important battle our over 150 years history of water wars. If a dual conveyance system is built much irreversible damage will occur in the state's economy, agriculture, urban infrastructure, and loss of the Delta and its fisheries. There are many ways DFF can help. First, I want to expand the Conservation Committee and am asking for volunteers. Restore the Delta is actively seeking stronger support from the fishing communities. We have many members with unique knowledge and understanding of the Delta and would be an great asset to Restore the Delta's Fisheries Section. They need our help. To volunteer, please contact me at 209 368 5767 or at bluse03@yahoo.com.

I am pleased that I am one of the people Restore the Delta selected from their list of volunteers to represent them in making presentations and showing their video, "Over troubled Waters". These programs will be made throughout Northern and Southern California. On May 3rd and 4th we will start our training with a 2 day course in the Delta on current issues.

In conservation, Delta Fly Fishers has been successfully involved in many issues. The dual conveyance issue will define what our fisheries will be in the future. We have to become involved. No one is going to do our job for us. If we want to maintain our fisheries for our children and grandchildren. We must win this one!

#### Ron Forbes

#### Conservation

# The Calaveras Fly Fishers One Fly Contest to be held May 11th, a DFF favorite. Come join the fun!

By Bob Fujimura Arnold, CA— The One Fly Contest is a friendly fishing event hosted by the Calaveras Fly Fishers. It is held at White Pines Lake near the community of Arnold just a short distance from Highway 4 (see map below).

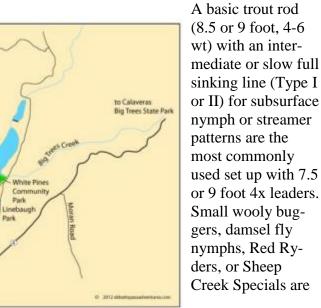
The May 11th event starts with registration at 7 am. The fishing competition starts at 9 am and ends at 1 pm. Anglers must pair up and verify each other catches. If you lose your fly during the contest, you can continue your fishing but any additional fish do not count toward the contest. Awards for the most trout caught and released and the biggest fish, regardless of species, caught and released. The contestant fee (\$25) includes a great lunch serving BBO tri-tip sandwiches, side dishes, soft drinks, and dessert. Funds from the event go to a local education fund.

This event is a lot of fun and well attended by DFF members of various skill levels. The lake is a relatively small and no motorized craft

WHITE PINES LAKE

are allowed, making it very beginner -friendly and a good learning situation for basic still water fishing technique Usually, a short time before the contest, this lake is stocked with hatchery rainbows that can ensure catches by novice fishers. But it can be also challenging

for intermediate level fishers since some of the best club anglers compete. Wild and hold-over trout can also provide more challenging angling. Beginning fly fishers can learn a lot about lake fly fishing by just watching the expert fishers and this event is one of the best ways to get to know the other members of the club. A float tube or personal watercraft is necessary to be competitive in the contest. Although fly anglers can catch fish from the shore especially near the inlets, the best fishing is from a watercraft.





Larry Schmidt in the foreground, Ron Forbes behind. Both looking for the big fish prize, 2012. Photo by Jerry Neuburger

some of the popular choices. Personal floatation devices are a must. No fish-finders are allowed during the contest. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the local businesses usually keep this lake well stocked and fly fishing can be excellent through mid-June. Late spring carpenter ant falls and Callibaetis hatches can produce exceptional dry fly fishing. Other species that can be fished during the summer and fall include largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, and common carp.

If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Bob Fujimura at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com or (209) 339-0683 by May 8. The Calaveras Fly Fishers need a head-count of members who are coming so they can have enough food for lunch. This is Bob's personal favorite lake for new fly fishers

## Eastern Sierra Focus

#### By CJ Webb

#### Fishing conditions:

Again Mother Nature for the 5th year has deemed it necessary to continue to provide moisture right through much of April. Heavy wind from the 14 through the 15th blew in about 6 inches of snow at the lakes and the weather has been very unstable with only a few t-shirt days. Spring run off has started in some places and the flows are fluctuating along with the night temperatures. Opening week

was incredibly beautiful in the high country. Hopefully this summer will produce lots of afternoon showers to maintain the lake levels. The No-see-ums are early and heading for Bridgeport then onto more sweaty skin, with mosquitoes not far behind. I already resemble a red and white polka dot dress from the 50's, oops, my slip (age) is showing.

Be safe if you cross streams and remember the water is extremely cold this time of year. Don't take chances unnecessarily, and

keep a solar blanket in your fly/tackle vest and assess the flow and your physical ability to handle the water. Wading staff might be an option.

#### News

The DFW's (Dept. of Fish and Game) reports that pre-season stockers destined for Inyo and Mono county waters were around 450,000 pounds. Also, Mono County anglers will have an shot at Alpers rainbows in the 2-4 pound range opening day thanks to funding from the Eastern Sierra Fishing Coalition. Waters to receive these are Crowley, Silver, Gull, Convict, Lundy, both Twins in Bridgeport, Bridgeport Reservoir, and the West Walker. Raven Angeles of IAG reported that June Lake Marina will see a privately -funded load of Alpers the week before the opener.

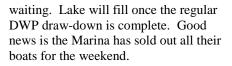
#### More News

Next report will have the latest from the Inland Desert Region 6 regarding the High Mountain Lakes Project.

#### Fishing Report:

# Most lakes above 8500' still frozen or partially thawed.

Remember to check the regulations prior to fishing unfamiliar water as to limits, size, and gear.



UPPER OWENS has been fair to good, water is clear so fish deeper pools using light color streamers, or small nymphs #16-18. Use a 2 fly rig with a para Adams #18 over standard nymphs, be adventurous. Check regs to make sure you are fishing the right area.



ROCK CREEK road is open and the lake just has one large ice floe in the middle and it should be gone in a few days. Resort plans to open Memorial weekend.

HOT CREEK flow has been around 43cfs. Road is open to parking lots. The breezy afternoons is a constant. Try midges in the am, mayflies mid-day and caddis in the afternoon with lizards basking on the rocks. Blue wing olives are working great with cloud cover and the fish are moving around. Nice size trout near trail under the bank, walk quietly and slow to avoid spooking your prey. Standard nymphs in #18-20 dark colors are the best right now.

Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of New Zealand mud snails.

CROWLEY Water is between 42-46 degrees and warming. Trout are hungry and CONVICT is full and ready for anyone interested in wetting a line with good numbers stocked this week. Repaving a section of the road may happen this summer..

MAMMOTH BASIN roads are being plowed but may not fully open until it is safe for traffic, then CalTrans heads to Minaret Vista by the end of April. Forest Service (760.924.5500) will head for the Red's Meadow and do any

Continued on page 4

Your newsletter is now totally integrated with the World Wide Web. You'll find many clickable links throughout the newsletter to the <u>club's website</u>, the club's <u>Facebook page</u> and other external links.

### Elmer's Heating and Air Conditioning

"Tell Elmer you're a Delta Fly Fisher when you call!"

Elmer Smith 209-477-3857 Lic # 294645 1/14





#### **DFF Officers**

DFF Officers	
President Marty Kjelson	209-477-9618
Vice President John Highsmith	209-369-3251
Secretary Sallye Rollans	209-274-0448
Treasurer Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
Directors	207-334-7201
Joe Balderston Ron Forbes Jerry Neuburger Bruce Rollans Larry Schmidt Bob Fujimura	209-649-0291 209-368-5767 209-369-5752 209-274-0448 209-482-8742 209-339-0683
Gil Parker Earl Summers	209 951-7154 209-957-6756
Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
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 Gil Parker	209-951-7154
Membership <u>Bob Fujimura</u>	209-339-0683
Outings Vacant	
Programs Al Smatsky Bob Sousa	209-368-9261 209-368-2683
Property/Historian John Highsmith	209-369-3251
Publicity Steve VonBerg	209-327-6161
Raffles Vacant	
Trout Bout (November) Charlie Reames	209-642-6704
Webmaster/Newsletter Jerry Neuburger	209-369-5752

Rx Fly Fishing! is the monthly publication of the Delta Fly Fishers, Inc. Delta Fly Fishers, Inc. is a public benefit 501c3 non-profit corporation registered with the California Secretary of State.

Any correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to: The Delta Fly Fishers Inc. PO Box 77862 Stockton, CA 95207-7862

### American River shad outing scheduled for May 25th

A club outing is scheduled for May 25th. Currently no fishmeister has stepped forward to lead the outing so no details exist as to rendezvous location and time. However, the American should be prime for shad fishing at this date.

Perhaps someone will step forward to take



7920 Kelly Drive, Stockton, CA An adult drinking establishment



"Our mission is to provide you with a total experience, not just a fishing trip."

Kelsey Bass Ranch, Mulege Baja, Isla Blanca, Pesca Maya, Xcalak, Picacho Lodge, Chile, Trinity & Klamath River Steelhead, Yuba, Feather & American River Shad, Club Presentations and Clinics

<u>www.excellentadventures.org</u> <u>Al Smatsky, Proprietor</u> 619 W. Pine Street, Lodi, CA 95240 (209) 368-9261, (209) 601-0819 cell 1/14

#### **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 email <u>Jerry Neuburger</u>, Editor 209-369-5752 charge. Check with the president at the May general meeting to see if this outing is still a go.

Even better, step forward and say you'll take on the responsibilities of making this outing happen. Contact president Marty and let him know that you're willing to step forward and help the club out.



The Delta Fly Fishers are proud to participate in the Save Mart Shares program. Each swipe of your Shares card earns the Delta Fly Fishers 3% of your purchase.



1/14

Ask John Keagy for a Shares Card today.

**Save Mart Store Locator** 

#### (Continued from page 6)

repair and tree removal on the road shooting for public access by May 25th. Twin Lakes is ice free but no word on Mary, Mamie or George.

SAN JOAQUIN Road plowing starts around May 10<sup>th</sup> due to agreement between the powers that be. Check with Forest Service in Mammoth Lakes for an exact opening date.

JUNE LAKE loop road opened around March 25th, and June Lake Marina is getting ready for the season. Tubing spots are plentiful and the Alpers await.

GULL LAKE is ice free and got a load of Alpers for the opener.

SILVER LAKE is ice free with the resort in full operation and starting the 26th, and the Forest Service campground will open on the 24th. Rush Creek is in good shape but a bit low.

GRANT LAKE is ice free and shoreline has great access for all anglers looking for that monster brown.

LUNDY LAKE road is open and so is the lake, but the resort plans to open Memorial weekend. Ponds in the back are higher than I've ever seen them, thanks to

## Rx Flyfishing!

#### <u>Delta Fly Fishers, Inc.</u>

P. O. Box 77862 Stockton, CA 95207-7862 www.deltaflyfishers.com the beavers.

VIRGINIA LAKES - The road was plowed to Big Virginia on the April 16<sup>th</sup>. The resort opens May 24th. The ice on Little Virginia is slushy and you will sink which is a bit scary with lots of fissures and might hold through the mornings for a day, maybe 2. It has more water showing around the edges by the boat dock. Ice on Big Virginia is approx 30" but is also slushy and has cracks along the entire east side. Skiing is great.

EAST WALKER flow as of this writing is **50cfs**, and was 299cfs on April 30<sup>th</sup> '2010. Loads of bugs showed with the warmer weather and this could prove to be the hot spot. Nice browns showed last week when the flow increased. Try blue wing olives when there's cloud cover, but nymphing with WD40's, Zebra midges, pheasant tails #18-20, root beer's and anything dark should get you into some nice fish. Try some Chernobyl's over your nymphs.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR water is a bit off color and the Rez is slowly filling. Lake has been stocked with DFW bows and has a ton of big fish. Some Alpers were also added by Eastern Sierra Fishing Coalition for more excitement. The Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation stocked catchable brown trout in 2010 and there are still some that have grown considerably, and probably mighty hungry!

WEST WALKER flow is **459**cfs. Stay with some nice attractors over San Juan worms around curves and flats. Water is off color and running high so try some flat water near the bridge, curves and sides.

SONORA PASS opened the 24th and subject to storm closure.

TIOGA PASS road crew started assessing the road on the 15th and reports state Cal-Trans started from this side on 4.22.13 and reports are there is not that much snow on top. It has always been difficult to schedule a annual start date for plowing, because it is determined by the winter snow-pack. Glacier Point and Mariposa Grove will open first then they will begin plowing Hwy. 120 on April 29th from the west side shooting for opening by May 11th depending on weather conditions. See: nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/ tioga.htm

MONITOR PASS opened April 11, but subject to storm closure.