

# Delta Fly Fishers

July 2007

Rx

Flyfishing

## President's Message by Herman Spalinger

July, 2007

We had a terrific turnout for the June 2nd Catfish Derby. I personally would again like to thank the following members in no particular order for their contribution to this county-sponsored event. First off, Earl Summers for arranging and setting up the food items; Bill Laughlin for buying the hot dogs and driving the cart around the pond selling food along with Bruce Rollans; Grady Lee for the donuts and being everywhere when needed despite a toothache; Walt Kotecki and Ed Sill for their handling of the weigh-in details; Charlie Reames for setting up the fly casting and spin casting area; Rick Greene, Jim Rich, Harvey Hambly for helping in the casting area; Sallye Rollans for helping in cooking the hot dogs, chili and cheese nachos; Marty Kjelson who went around collecting and helping the participants fill out the entries they turn in for the largest fish; Al Tschantz-Hahn and Steve Smith also for being everywhere they were needed; Joe Balderston for demonstrating fly tying to anyone interested; and finally an extra "thanks" to Cara Ochsner, Joe Balderston's "Mom", who also was everywhere. The County Parks & Recreation Department through Sandi, Alicia and David who put on the trout bouts and catfish derby are really appreciative of seeing so many club members volunteer in making these events a success. You, the members, are the ones who keep this organization functioning on such a high level.

On another note, Dillard's Department store had a Father's Day sale this last Saturday, and, through the urging of an employee and past club member Jerrold Fitzsimmons, Dillard's called Jim Rich to see if our club would be interested in setting up a display table between 11:00 a.m. to after 4:00 p.m. to show the public browsing through Dillard's what Delta Fly Fishers is all about. Jim brought a couple of DVD's demonstrating fly casting techniques and played one on his computer and the other on a small TV screen. He also made up several dozen brochures explaining our club's activities to pass around to those who stopped by to chat. Jim also set up a vise and demonstrated the art of tying flies. I brought along my three carved fish to show the public an example of some of the fish we go after. Jerrold hung around and helped as well. We had a positive response from those "browsers" who stopped to talk with us, and some even showed interest in coming to our fly casting instruction on Wednesday evenings during the summer as well as interest in maybe joining our club. This would have been an excellent opportunity to play a DVD demonstrating to the public what activities our club enjoys. A committee has been formed for just such an endeavor, and I hope we can have one ready by our annual dinner next February.

I would like to mention again, especially to you newer members who have recently joined our club, to please make an effort to take advantage of our "Fishing Buddy" program and the fly casting area over the pond at Oak Grove Park. Several of our more experienced members are always on hand each Wednesday during the summer to help anyone interested in improving their casting technique. I know we all could use a little help and it's a good idea to have someone watch and see if you have any "bad habits" that may need correcting. Our club was founded on the principle of good fellowship and experience afforded to all of us to become better fly fishermen and women to help you enjoy the sport.

Remember, there is no membership or board meeting in July - we're all out fishing. Our next membership meeting will be August 8th at the Oak Grove Park Nature Center. Please look to our newsletter for announcements regarding September's membership meeting at J.R. Williams School. I understand from their front office they are in the process of rebuilding some classrooms and our meeting room area and they can't anticipate the progress of the contractors. They may have to use our meeting room for several classrooms so we'll have to make other arrangements.

In the meantime have a fantastic July fishing and be sure to keep those flies in the water and your lines tight. See you in August.

# Membership Form

Membership Form - Regular membership is: \$25 and a Family Membership is: \$30.00 or \$20.00 for 62 years or older. New members please add \$5.00 one time new member initiation. Dues are for one year September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. Please fill out then mail to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Check one: New membership \_\_\_\_\_ Renew membership \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Membership for one year \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Two years \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership for one year \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Two years \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be on the \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ committee

Please renew your membership, if you have not done so. If you are not sure, check the mailing label for your current status. If there is any questions or problems please contact: Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or e-mail at [suzasbs@clearwire.net](mailto:suzasbs@clearwire.net).

## Fishing Buddy Request

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE CONTACTS: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

The best time to contact me is \_\_\_\_\_

My E-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE A FISHING BUDDY TO HELP ME WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casting           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying         | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment          | <input type="checkbox"/> Knot Tying            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Outings | <input type="checkbox"/> Float Tubing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pontoon Boating    | <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Fishing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Fishing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Trout Fishing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead Fishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shad Fishing          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bass Fishing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Striper Fishing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Water Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Water Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rod Building      | <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting a Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel             | <input type="checkbox"/> Entomology            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____       |  |   |  |

Please describe what you would like help with \_\_\_\_\_

If you need further information, please contact the Fishing Buddy Committee:

Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or [suzasbs@clearwire.net](mailto:suzasbs@clearwire.net).

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or [gmississippikid@aol.com](mailto:gmississippikid@aol.com)

Mail the form to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

# July Outing

## The Truckee River, July 14



We couldn't get a fishmeister for the Spicer Reservoir outing scheduled for Saturday July 14. Besides, the reports have Spicer Reservoir low and fishing poorly. Leo Gutierrez bailed us out and offered to be Fishmeister for an outing to the Truckee River on Saturday July 14. Leo also graciously has also offered the use of his cabin for those who want to go up Friday and stay over! For information about the time, where to meet and directions call Leo at 957-9408 or e-mail [lgutterres@aol.com](mailto:lgutterres@aol.com).

## Lassen Park Outing



Delta Fly Fishers Herm Spalinger, Jim Rich, Rick Green, Larry Schmidt, Harvey Harlow, Marty Kjelson and Bob & Terry Sousa enjoyed a trip to the Lassen Park area where the weather was excellent and the fish and insect hatches were cooperative. The group camped at Crag's campground in Lassen Park and at the Caves campground on Hat Creek. Most of the group fished Manzanita Lake, Baum Lake and Lake McCumber. Lake McCumber yielded the most catches as the damsel hatch was in full swing where damsel nymphs, PTs and Jim Rich's "sparkle" damsel were successful. Callibaetis, Adams and Pale Morning Dun dry flies also fooled the rainbows and Browns. We were treated to seeing a bald eagle over the lake. The lake was very weedy already which forced us to concentrate on the east side river channel where many fish were present. A morning trico hatch on Baum Lake was very heavy but the fish were challenging with partial success on various tactics. The size 18-22 tricos are pretty small! We heard Baum fished very well all winter so that will be an option later in the year. Multiple ospreys showed us how to catch fish but struggled to get airborne with their prey after the aggressive dive from 20 to 30 ' high. Manzanita Lake held its reputation as very challenging though the fish were certainly there in good numbers. Stripping a streamer or nymphs and site fishing along the shore yielded some fish in the early afternoon and am. The evening hatch of caddis and midges brought many fish to the surface providing dry fly success for many of our group. The Lake's setting below Lassen Peak makes it one of the most beautiful places in California. Harvey and Marty arrived on Wednesday noon and had time to fish the Fall River, a beautiful large spring creek with a great view of Mt. Shasta. Fish were rising upon their arrival at the Trout Unlimited boat ramp around 10am and continued into the early afternoon. The majority of browns and rainbows took pale morning duns as well as small nymphs when the wind rose in mid afternoon. Four deer showed themselves along the river including two four point bucks. They also fished North Battle creek reservoir which is a nice lake with a view of Lassen Park and surrounded by forest. The small to medium browns and rainbows were taken primarily on wooly buggers but also on Callibaetis and elk hair caddis dry's. The group enjoyed post fishing fellowship (fishing fibs mainly) on Saturday evening prior to sharing dinner at one of the few restaurants in the Hat Creek Valley. We encourage other members to explore this diverse and beautiful part of Northern California.



## Conservation by Ron Forbes

On June the 13th Federal District Judge John Coughenour overturned another Bush administration policy ruling. Under the administration's policy, hatchery salmon and steelhead populations would be combined with native salmon and steelhead as one population rather than two per species. They concluded that if the wild fish and hatchery populations were combined both the salmon and steelhead populations should be removed from the Endangered Species list and placed on the Threatened List species list. This would make the requirements protecting the fish far less strict.

The Federation of Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, the Sierra Club, Earth Justice, along with other environmental groups, filed suit against the Bush policy to maintain the salmon and steelheads place on the endangered list.

In his conclusion, Coughenour said that there is a difference between wild and hatchery fish, and that the Government's policy must be focused on preserving natural life cycles. "Though it scarcely seems open to debate, the court concludes that in evaluating any policy or listing determination under the Endangered Species Act, its pole star must be the viability of natural self-sustaining populations in their natural habitat. To be sure, the inclusion of hatchery fish alongside natural fish strikes the court as odd", Coughenour noted.

As you will recall, this is basically the same suit we are interveners in along with Earth Justice, and the Federation of Fly Fishers. Even though this action probably will be appealed, it is considered a major victory! And it will be interesting to see if it will affect our case.

Three weeks ago at a town hall-type meeting in Bakersfield, Governor Schwarzenegger announced that California should proceed with the building a new 42 mile peripheral canal. His comments come as no surprise to anyone following water issues in California. When he appointed his so-called "Blue Ribbon" panel and excluded anyone from the Delta, the hand writing was on the wall. Evidentially Schwarzenegger intends to follow the path set by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and their inability or lack of desire to conceive a long range, sustainable water plan for the state of California. It is just another "band-aid" approach to a problem that needs long term solutions.

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The new peripheral canal plan is deeply flawed. As you know it will bypass the Delta and take its water directly from the Sacramento River. The bill in Sacramento at present has less environmental protection than the canal bill of over twenty years ago. Environmental issues aside, there has been no serious discussion of the costs, neither direct nor indirect, has been made public. There are estimates that the DWR would take as much as 50% of the Sacramento River's water and send it south. If we lose more water the Delta will increase in salinity and much of its agriculture will be lost. The increase in loss for pelagic organisms will go on unchecked. No long term studies have provided answers as to the water quality for cities surrounding the delta. However, water quality continues to decline and the future looks poor.

Those of us in the Delta Fly Fishers heard DFG's Chuck Amour's report on animal decline in the Delta. The science is in and it tells us over and over the DWR isn't doing its job and the proposed peripheral isn't the answer. It just continues the problem. Yet they continue.

California's new reality seems to be that our major water source, the Sierra snowpack, is threatened by global warming. The southwestern US has been in drought for over seven years. Yet our government continues to do things like sending subsidized water to grow subsidized cotton in desert-like conditions on land getting its water from Westland Water District. Many of our politicians continue to totally ignore good science for political expediency, an all too common practice. Good laws protecting the environment are on the books; however the DWR and others agencies choose to ignore them or grant waivers so the laws aren't followed.

Those who favor the peripheral canal are moving forward at greater speed than ever before. However, groups like Restore the Delta and others are building a base of opposition. At their last meeting one state Senator had a rep present; three Assembly people were there along with one person from Stockton's City Council. Many environmental groups had people in attendance along with scientist and others from major universities. Early in July, House member George Miller will be holding a meeting on how to protect and restore the Delta.

If we in the Delta Fly Fishers want to see our Delta survive and continue to enjoy it, we need to become active in its preservation. We need to join other fishing, ecological and political groups in helping to protect and restore the Delta. The Delta is our "home"; it is totally unique among estuaries along the entire west coast of North and South America. And it needs our help. Our statement of who we are as a club expresses our concern and love for the environment. Now is the time for us to show that we will be counted.

In the next conservation report I will have suggestions as to how we can use our club to become involved in Delta issues.

Good Fishing,

Ron

## Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

Help support your club by buying and using club merchandise.

Polo Shirt w/club logo sale	\$26.00
Ball Cap	\$11.50
Club Patch	\$5.00
Lapel Pin	\$7.00
Lic. Plate Frames	\$3.00
Official coffee mug	\$5.00

Also the club has a video library  
Videotape Rentals \$2.00 Per Video

See Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

## Membership Meetings

**There is No General Membership Meeting in July**

### July Board Meeting

**There is no Board Meeting in July**

### August Newsletter

The deadline for the August issue is July 25th.

## DFF Officers

### President

Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

### 1st Vice President

Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

### 2nd Vice President

(Open)

### Secretary

Steve Von Berg 209 - 327-6161

### Treasurer

Bruce Rollans 209 - 274-0448

## Directors

Joe Balderston 209 - 474-8515

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

Harvey Hamlow 209 - 467-8370

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

## Committees

### Education

Joe Balderston 209 - 474-8515

### Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

### Conservation & NCCFFF Member

Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

### Catfish Derby (June)

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

### Historian

Dean Watson 209 - 815-6887

### Membership

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

### Outings

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

### Publicity

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

### Programs

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

John Keagy 209 - 369-5690

### Property

Jacob Loyko 209 - 468-2664

### Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

### Trout Bout

Charlie Reames 209 - 369-6053

### Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

### Web Site

David Coon 209 - 239-9936

### Fishing Buddy

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Ron Pettit 209 - 931-2997

## The June 2007 Catfish Derby Oak Grove Park





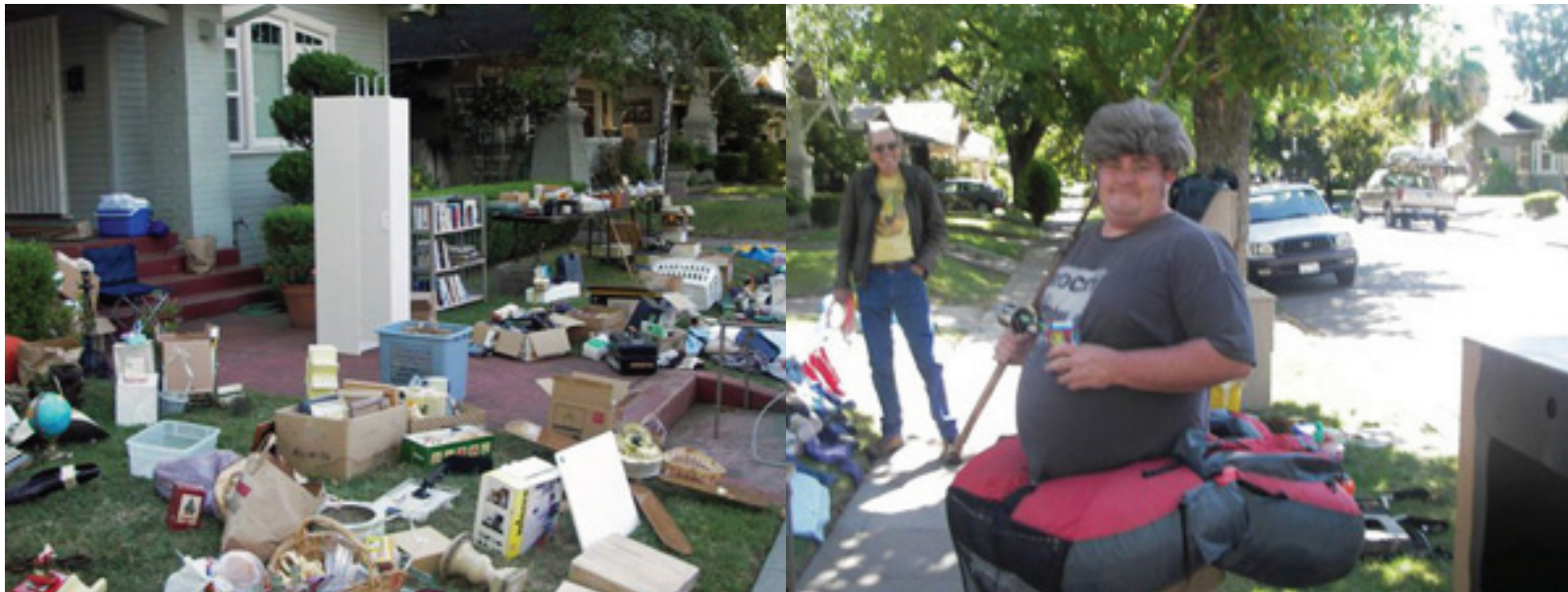
## June BBQ

We had a great turnout for our June 13th BBQ. Approximately 80 members and guests came out to the park on a very warm afternoon to enjoy sharing food, conversation and, probably some fabricated fish reports. A number of people remarked favorably on the quality of the New York Strip Steaks provided this year. Thanks to a cooling breeze to keep the heat sort of in check. As usual, there were many delicious presentations tempting the palate. Again, special thanks to Earl Summers, Bruce and Sallye Rollans, Leo Gutterres, Bruce Bullard, and Rick Greene for standing in for Bill Laughlin at the raffle table, and a real special thanks to all you wives who slaved over a hot stove to cook up treats for the potluck.



## Delta Fly Fisher's First Annual (Maybe) Garage Sale

Through the hard work and effort of Jacob Loyko, the Delta Fly Fishers had their annual, perhaps, garage sale. The sale was in conjunction with the League of Women Voters, who we shared the expenses with. We had many items donated to us, including an entertainment center which was in very bad condition. All-in-all it turned out to be a very good day for us. We ended the day with almost \$600 profit. Thank you Jacob for all of your hard work!!!!



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meet- ing nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>FLY CASTING</b> Contact: Jim Rich 477-6404 Rick Greene 477-1488
Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690
Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Saturday July 14	Truckee River Outing Truckee, CA	Outing the Truckee and Little Truckee Rivers Fishmeister: Leo Gutierrez 957-9408 or e-mail <a href="mailto:lgutterres@aol.com">lgutterres@aol.com</a> .
Saturday July 28	Boat Dock Oak Grove Park Stockton	Fly Fishing Lessons for members of the Silent Society at the Oak Grove Park boat dock. Info: Harvey Hamlow 467-4370
Sept. 14 - 16	Bridgeport, CA	Bridgeport Outing, Fishmeister Bob Bradley 369-4048
Oct. 13	O'Neil Forebay Santa Nella, CA	Striper Outing Fishmeister: Bob Souza 478-8344
November 17	Boat Dock Oak Grove Park Stockton	Trout Bout
TBA November	Rancho Seco Lake	Outing
TBA December	Rancho Seco Lake	Outing

## California Bass Anglers of the Silent Society

On Saturday, July 28th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the Delta Flyfishers plans on having a hands-on demonstrations of casting, an overall description of what fly fishing is all about and Fly Fishing Lessons for members of the Silent Society at the Oak Grove Park boat dock. We'll need to have someone help with casting and to demonstrate how to tie a few simple flies as well. Food will be via the courtesy of the BASS club.



# Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing tip:

“Catching: the art of deceiving, to grip, hook or entangle” is a good description of our pursuit. Trout feed mainly at the bottom so in order to do more “catching” we have to use more of what the trout eat. Flies that imitate wingless wets, soft-hackled wets, and traditional winged wet flies should be in your fly box. Most wet flies should be slim and sparse, bodies thinly dubbed with loose fur that “works” in the water, and of course hen hackle bunched makes a fly appear as if it is alive and struggling. Don’t try and imitate each one, but just do the average of them. For example, in winged wets, Light and Dark Cahill, the Leadwing Coachman, and Hare’s Ear, plus the Alder from size 12 to 16 will cover the color spectrum that you’re likely to encounter. In soft hackles carry the March Brown Spider, Partridge & Orange, green and yellow in sizes 10 to 14 as these take up very little space in your fly box. The best 3 wingless wets are the Hare’s Ear Wingless and Little Olive Wingless, in sizes 12 to 16 as they will look more like naturals and fool lots more fish.

I’ve always tied my flies on the sparse side, and my dries are even more minuscule. I’ve never seen a fat flying ant, an over-weight Gnat or an obese mosquito, so you make the call.

## Weather

Eastern Sierra weather turned warmer than normal for this time of year totally eliminating May and June and we have been into July weather for the last 6 weeks. The good news is mosquitoes are down for higher elevations, making hiking a great experience. The low pressure is due in, which means bad news for the Tahoe Fire and loads of wind here.

## Legislation

The Department is meeting their legislation obligation for the 2007 season, and moving fish into the area from Crystal Lake, Fillmore and Mojave hatcheries. The Fish and Game Commission meeting is still set for Bridgeport in July to determine if the new catch and release regulations need to be rescinded. The mud snail is being monitored just across the road from the Fish Springs hatchery. DFG has requested two teams of six personnel to start testing the negative waters and this should start mid-summer and go through fall. Please remember to clean all your gear should you fish in mud snail positive areas.

**ROCK CREEK AREA and Mosquito Flats** are doing well and the water is slowing down. I saw a few fish feeding in the reedy area on the East side of Marsh Lake. That brown doesn’t seem to like my offering, so back to the drawing board. I’ve been working on a version of a mosquito larva in green and brown but think I need to put some orange or yellow down the sides.

**HOT CREEK** – Water is flow is comfortable and a bit off color. There are numerous hatches going off most of the time with this warm weather. According to a recent guide trip, #18 micro caddis or #16 Midge larva. A #16 Sofa Pillow Stimulator, Caddis, baetis and Yellow Sallies are around in huge numbers. Also try zebra midges, and miracle nymphs in #18-20. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail.

**CONVICT** - No report

**CROWLEY** – Fish are still in deeper water and the water level is starting to drop but not severely and is fairly clear. Surface water temps are in the 70’s and fish are stacking in the north end. Try dry dropper at the mouth of the Owens and if you are into browns get up early for the bite. Everything is going off in north areas of the lake so stop in local shops and get the latest scoop.

**MAMMOTH BASIN** – Was recently stocked with browns by Tim Alpers. They are settling in so give them some space to adjust. Larger streamers and small emergers will be the best shot at seeing some spots. Afternoons with dries or terrestrials should produce near the shoreline, might even want to drop in a San Juan worm.

**SAN JOAQUIN** – Is doing well with small dries late in the day, but emergers are the ticket during the day and midges in the am. Try Starkweather for some fun action when the pressure is low.

**RUSH CREEK** – Is starting to get low and the release of water out of Gem is not happening and runoff is waning. Try Adams female or light Cahill on top in #16 or 18 or smaller.

**JUNE LAKE** – Stay with standard streamers in dark patterns near weedy areas of the lake, and on the north shore. Watch for feeding trout early evening and use an Orange Fish Hawk as a bottom fly with a woolly as a top. Grey Ghost (my version) is also a good fly on June, and Silver.

**GULL LAKE** – Is getting weekly Alpers plants so it’s open water for just about anything.

**SILVER LAKE** – Most of the fish coming out are being taken near the Rush Creek inlet area. Grey Ghosts, Rainbow Hornbergs and black and burgundy Woolly Buggers

**LUNDY** – No Report

**VIRGINIA LAKES** – A hot spot to tube in the last 6 weeks using streamers sub-surface (weight added), but emergers and midges have made a name for themselves according to Barb & Fred Stevens. Barb pulled out a nice Alper’s on a midge and was delighted with her prize, not to mention the beautifully marked Brook. Olive Elk Hair Caddis in the last hours of the day and Orange Asher if a ripple is happening. Three different Caddis hatches have been going off from Alders to Goddard Caddis up to a size 12 so bring your wares and hit the water.

**EAST WALKER** – The flow is at 134cfs and has dropped from 161 2 days ago. It’s been excellent with dries in the morning so try some PMD’s in smaller sizes and any Caddis pattern will get you into fish. You’ll do best on an Adams parachute in the morning, and have the time of your life. Skip the dry/dropper and go for the gusto, “dry fly”.

**BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR** – Is picking up and the best spot is right in front of the Marina. Midging has been good and callibaetis are the number one hatch. Dries are top of the list for action along with damsels.

**WEST WALKER** – The flow is 131cfs. Same as last report so stay on the top as the water is at an excellent level for large attractor dries and small midges for the bottom fly. See you on the water. CJ





Jim's Casting



Marty's Catching

and

## *Delta Fly Fishers*

**Rx Flyfishing Newsletter**

PO Box 77862

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