



# Rx Fly Fishing!

*The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!*

Volume XLI

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

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## Calendar

- Apr 11<sup>th</sup> Monthly Membership Meeting 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, John R Williams Elementary School
- Apr 13<sup>th</sup> Flyday Open Tying, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM, House of Coffees, 239 N Ham Ln, Lodi
- Apr 18<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Oak Grove Regional Park
- Apr 21<sup>st</sup> KELSEY BASS Ranch, 7am 3pm, Fishmeister: Al Smatsky
- April 21—EBMUD Kid's Fishing Day Volunteers needed
- April 25<sup>th</sup> Fly of the Month, 6:30 to 8pm, Oak Grove Park
- April 28<sup>th</sup> Beardsley Afterbay Outing 7am to 3pm
- April 29<sup>th</sup> Village West Marina Outing 7am to 1pm
- May 5<sup>th</sup> One Fly Contest, White Pines Lake, Arnold. 8am.

From the President's desk... (or pram or van or camper)

## If it's April it's definitely time to go fishing



Spring has sprung and it's right on schedule! It's a good thing because this month and the next are full of DFF activities! The month kicks off with the April 11th general membership meeting. This month's speaker, Chris Maher, will cover the Truckee River. This river is a trophy fishery but has a long, steep learning curve. Anything that can shorten that curve is worth learning. In addition to the speaker, a really special prize is offered as part of the raffle, a Fenwick 7'6" classic fiberglass rod. I really want to win this one and all my tickets are going in the bag! Don't forget, the meeting is open to the public. Bring your friends, it's a great time to start learning the art of fly fishing.

Next on the agenda is Flyday Night Open Tying April 13th at the House of Coffee, in Lodi at Ham and Lockeford Streets. Start time is 5pm. I plan to attend and will bring some materials for tying gurglers, a dynamite topwater LMB fly. If anyone wants to learn this pattern, come on by.

The club had planned to send some volunteers to the DFW sponsored Moccasin Creek Trout Fest on the 14th but some heavy rains changed that plan. The dam just above the hatchery overtopped and washed away the hatchery's stock and damaged the hatchery itself. Thankfully all of the staff had been evacuated prior to the flooding. Let's hope that DFW gets the facility back on line as quickly as possible and we'll put it back on for next year's plans.

Wednesday, the 18th is the club's BOD meeting, again, it's open to any member who wants to sit in and see up close and personal how the board and officers run the

club business.

The 21st of the month is somewhat of a problem since we have the very popular Kelsey Bass Ranch outing scheduled as well as some volunteers needed to assist EBMUD with their kid's fishing day at Camanche Reservoir. Ranger Scott from EBMUD will tell us more about the event at the club's monthly meeting. If you're not doing one, you're encouraged to do the other.

Although that sounds like a lot, two more outings and another fly tying session fill out the month. The Fly of the Month tying session takes place at the Oak Grove Park Nature Center, April 25th at 6:30. \$5 gets you the materials to tie three flies and the instructor guided directions to make them effective.

Mike Nichol森 will lead an outing to Beardsley afterbay on the 28th, the opening day of the Sierra Trout Season. Because of the elevation, and current snow levels, a lot depends on the weather but if the lake is open, it should be spectacular fishing.

The last April outing is the next day, Sunday the 29th. Bill Beckett is fishmeister for another delta outing, this time at Village West Marina. Start time at 7am. Instead of a club lunch, cheeseburgers at Bob's is suggested as a lunch option.

Although not in April, the Calaveras Fly Fishers sponsored One Fly Contest White Pines Lake in Arnold on May 5th is so close to April that it deserves a mention. Bob Fujimura is the club contact for this fun event. I'm signing up for everything on the list. So many fish, so little time.

Jerry

Check out the club's new and vibrant website. Amy Terra has the whole thing popping! [CLICK HERE!](#)

## Chris Maher will cover the fabulous Truckee River at the April 11th General Membership Meeting

Our featured speaker is Chris Maher, a guide who will be sharing tips and secrets on fly fishing the Truckee River. The Truckee River in the Lake Tahoe Region is a world class trout river. This catch and release river is home to some of the best fighting wild trout in the country. The Truckee River flows out of Lake Tahoe



and meanders it way into Truckee, then down into Reno where it will eventually flow into Pyramid Lake. This classic “freestone river” is home to a wild population of Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout. The Truckee offers classic runs with deep buckets, pocket water, swing water, and the occasional dry flat.

Chris’s presentation will cover all aspects of fishing the Truckee River. During each year Chris guides many Northern California river and in Alaska seasonally. But being a long-term resident of Truckee, Chris’s home waters are the Truckee and Little Truckee Rivers. Chris talk will explain why the Truckee River is home to the hardest fighting wild trout in the West. He will also cover all aspects of fly fishing the Truckee River. More information on Chris’s biography and the talk subject can be found in the discussion portion of this Event posting.

All general membership meetings are free to the public. Please come hear our invited speaker, meet our members, and enjoy our latest pro-

gram. Find out what waters have been productive and preview upcoming club events and activities. Fun raffle at the end of the meeting.

And of course the show will feature Bill Beckett’s snacks and the monthly raffle. This month’s raffle has a special grand prize, a legendary Fenwick fiberglass 7’6” five weight rod, complete with reel and line. While glass rods are notoriously poor for casting, they are just the opposite with a fish on the line. A glass rod can be almost bent in half while today’s modern graphite creations will shatter at half that flex. The prez says he’s putting \$20 in tickets just to have a chance to win this super prize.

The meeting will be held at the John R. Williams School, Meadow Avenue, Stockton on April 11. Doors open at 6:30, meeting starts at 7.

**Don’t come alone...  
bring a friend!**

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Stockton, CA 95207-7862	

The DFW Trout Fest at Moccasin Creek to be held April 14th has been cancelled due to flooding. You can read about the flood and the resultant fish rescue by following [this link to the Modesto Bee](#).

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Looking for fun on a Friday Night?. Flyday Night Fly Tying may be the thing. Next session April 13th.



Flyday Night Fly Tying is a once a month opportunity to get together with fellow DFFers for some open session fly tying. / The event, created by VP Amy Terra, takes place at the House of Coffee, Ham and Lockeford Streets in Lodi.

Bring your fly tying gear or just come to sit around and chat. Or maybe see a fly that someone else is tying that you'd like to add to your repertoire The first effort was a smashing success with over ten people attending.

In addition to the namesake coffee, the establishment will soon be serving draft beer so tiers have no reason to be thirsty while tying.

Arrive around 5pm if you want to be sure to find a seat..

The annual visit to Kelsey Bass Ranch will take place April 21. The cook, due to popular demand will be Bob Sousa

The outing at Kelsey Bass Ranch will be held on Saturday April 21st. So far I have nine (9) sign ups. The sign-up sheet will be available at the April meeting, or for those who are interested, you can contact Al via phone (209)-601-0819 or email at [algofish@softcom.net](mailto:algofish@softcom.net).

The fee is \$85 per person, and you will need the gate code to access the property. Lunch will be provided by Excellent Adventures, and just like last year, chef Bob Sousa will be preparing a gourmet lunch for all to enjoy.

Al Smatsky



# Fly of the Month for April will be...?

You'll just have to come to the April 25th session to find out! This is all you get for now.

April 25th 7 pm to 9 pm

Upcoming outings include Beardsley Afterbay and the one-

fly contest at White Pines. Come and tie a fly that may or may not work in either or both of those places.... It is fishing after all! \$5 gets you instruction and materials to tie 3 flies. All equipment and materials provided.

The Fly of the Month sessions take place at Oak Grove Park on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Start time is 6:30. Loaner tools are available for those just learning.

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## April 28th outing to Beardsley Afterbay should provide a good start to the Sierra Trout Season.

Mike Nichol森, fishmiester for this outing says:

Beardsley afterbay outing will take place April 28th. plan to arrive at 0700 hours. float tube, pontoon boat, kayak, canoe, to access this stillwater fishery! 9-10ft 4-6wt rods. sinking lines are the pre-

ferred method so intermediate, type II, sink tips lines are perfect. Small leaches, damsels, woolly buggers, matukas, pt nymphs, hares ears, prince nymphs, can produce a strike!

PFD, hat, sunscreen, drinking water, sack lunch.

Weather permitting the gate access off hwy 108 on Beardsley Rd. For more information leading up to outing contact summit ranger station.

209-965-3434

If the road is open there could be some great fishing on the afterbay.

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## Join Fishmiester Bill Becket fishing the delta for stripers and large mouth bass on April 29th at Village West Marina.

The closeness of the delta belies its ability to produce some fantastic largemouth fishing. Fishmiester Bill Beckett will lead fellow DFFers in pursuit of this fish and an occasional striped bass at Village West marina at the end of Benjamin Holt Drive. Six and

seven weight rods with sinking lines and bass and striper streamers are the appropriate gear for this fish since topwater action usually doesn't start until late May or early June.

Pontoon boats, prams, kayaks and full sized boats all work as casting

platforms. The marina has a launch ramp should you need one. Fishing starts at 7am with a lunch break planned at about 1pm. Since the marina has two restaurants, including Bob's Giant Burgers, plan to have lunch with the group to finish off the day.

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## It's almost that time. The Calaveras Challenge One Fly Contest will take place at White Pine Lake, Arnold, May 5th

Do you enjoy friendly competition or what to learn the basics of stillwater trout fishing from watching experts? Come out to the annual One Fly Contest hosted by our neighboring club the Calaveras Fly Fishers at White Pine Lake near Arnold (see map) on the first Saturday morning in May. Delta Fly

Fishers members have regularly attended this annual competition and have often won the two awards for most trout and the biggest fish landed using a single fly. For DFF members who have participated in the past, the details of the event and competition is exactly the same as previous years

and without the 2017 hassles of dealing with flood damage to the lake access road.

White Pine Lake is a small lake with a no power boat ban, free public access, and has well maintained park facilities operated by

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local volunteers. Typically, the lake is stocked with hatchery trout by the CDFW before the event. But the lake has a healthy population of wild trout and good numbers of bass and sunfish.

This event is a lot of fun and well attended by DFF members of various skill levels. The contest registration starts at 7 am but all competitors must wait until 9 am to start fishing. Usually most DFF participants drive up that morning, enjoy set up their crafts and tackle, partake the coffee and donuts provided by SFF, and smack-talk with the other members. We will also try to arrange an optional breakfast in Arnold for those members who are interested.

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. The \$25 contestant fee includes a great lunch serving BBQ tri-tip sandwiches, side dishes, soft drinks, and dessert. Funds from the event go to a local education fund. Spectators can also join the lunch for a lesser fee.

Float tube or personal watercraft is necessary to be competitive in the contest. A basic trout rod (9 or 9.5 foot, 4-6 wt) with an intermediate or slow full sinking line (Type I or II) for subsurface nymph or streamer patterns are the most commonly used set up with 7.5 or 9 foot 4x leaders. Small wooly buggers, damsel fly nymphs, red riders, or sheep creek specials are some of the popular choices. Per-

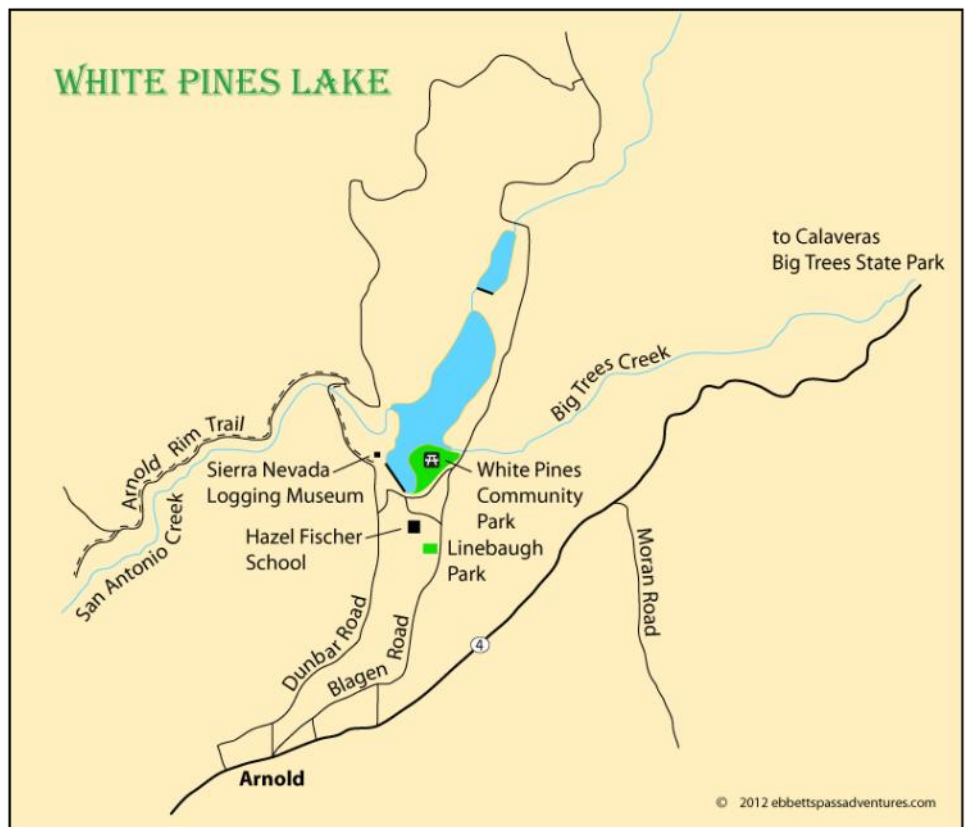
sonal floatation devices are a must. No fishfinders are allowed during the contest. The club members must have signed liability waiver on file with our Secretary.

The best fishing for beginners occur if there has been a heavy trout planting before the contest. Under those conditions, high catch rates are the rule. But if not, the more experienced stillwater fishers have a marked advantage. This lake contains a good population of wild and hold-over trout. Every spring, carpenter ant falls and Callibaetis

ing in early spring. 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.

If you are interested in attending this event, please sign up at the next April general meeting or contact Bob Fujimura at [deltaflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:deltaflyfishers@gmail.com) or (209) 339-0683 by April 29. The Calaveras Fly



hatches can produce exceptional dry fly fishing. Other fishes that can be fished during the summer and include largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, and common carp. This lake can be an excellent venue to learn basic stillwater fish-

Fishers need a head-count of members who are coming so they can have enough food for lunch. Bob will also provide event updates and pre-event fishing reports to those who sign up.

If my memory serves me right, after a long string of victories, our club has not won the top prize at this event for the last two years. We need some new blood to bring back the fame and glory that goes with this great contest of fly fishing skills. And it's a lot of fun!

## Going to the Southfork outing in May? Attend this preplanning meeting hosted by Bob and Jean Fujimura On April 19th or 20th.

Hosts Bob and Jean Fujimura are inviting those DFF members who are interested in joining the South Fork Reservoir, NV outing during May 20-23 to an informational and pre-trip planning meeting at the House of Coffees, 7-8 pm either April 19 or 20. They realize that the distance of the fishing location requires more planning and time commitment than most club outings and want to share our advice and support on fishing this remarkable location.

Bob and Jean will answer questions on this outing and start the

group planning arrangements with those members who plan to attend. If you are coming to this meeting, please talk to Bob Fujimura at the April general meeting or contact him at email at [deltaflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:deltaflyfishers@gmail.com) or (209) 339-0683 evenings by April 22.

Recent (March 15-22) reports from NV Fish and Wildlife indicate already good



fishing for 16-20" trout with several larger fish landed up to 25".

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Ron Forbes Conservation Chair

## A Sad Day For Scientific Integrity In The Delta

*Nothing grows faster than a fish from when it bites until it gets away.*

... Anonymous

Over the years many of us concerned about the environment and fisheries of the Delta have respected Dr. Peter Moyle of the Center of Watershed Science, University of California Davis. He has authored a large amount of respected scientific literature. Unfortunately, a recently published white paper has cast doubt on his scientific integrity. Dr. Moyle, along with John Durand and Carson Jeffres, have jointly authored a white paper for the Orange County Coastkeeper (OCC) The paper is titled, "Making the Delta a Better Place for Native Fishes." These recommendations of the white paper will not make the Delta a better place for the native fish but

make the Delta's environment increasingly uninhabitable for those species and increases the probability of their extinction.

What is the Orange County Coastkeeper and why did they commission this white paper? They are strong advocates of Gov. Brown's WaterFix project.

Their financial support comes from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), Southern California Edison (SCE), southern water districts, and companies such as the Irvine Company, Wells Fargo Foundation and the Walmart Foundation. All these groups are supporters of the WaterFix and do not support the Delta, its environment or its economy. They also will enjoy a large financial gain if the project is built. The loss of the Delta will be to their financial

benefit.

Garry Brown is the founder and president of the OCC. In his introductory remarks on the white paper, he destroys any scientific credibility Moyle's paper has with his comments that tunnel backers formed a steering committee to provide "guidance" for the white paper. They reviewed the report and made what they considered "appropriate" comments. Evidently Moyle allowed his paper to be revised 7 times until it met OCC's requirements. So much for Moyle's, and his co-authors, scientific integrity.

The white paper is seriously flawed. Some of its notable problems are:

. The paper assumed that entrainment of native and introduced fish

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*(Continued from page 6)*

will be avoided since the intakes will be near Cortland and above present intakes. Water Fix advocates refer to a new tunnel design that prevents entrainment. The current 60 plus year old fish screens have resulted in millions of lost fish. The "guaranteed" screens they promised would solve the entrainment problem are non-existent, and the design for a new screen is untested and unproven.

.They claim the North-South Delta water flow can be changed to an East-West flow to be more of a naturally occurring flow. Anyone who knows the history of water diversion from the Delta to the south knows this will not happen. There will be major changes in providing investments in habitat restoration for the Delta's fish. It has not happened in the past and there is nothing definitely planned for the future.

Bill Jennings, Executive Director of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA), commented that the paper "Is an embarrassment to Moyle and his reputation." Restore the Delta's Executive Director, Barbara Barrigan-Parilla joined Jennings' criticism of the paper saying, "I believe Dr. Moyle's delivered a theory based on the opinions of the people who funded his work." She also commented that he will "end up on the wrong side of history."

Jennings based his criticism of Moyle's paper on premises that Moyle cannot be supported by realities facing the Delta. The first criticism is that Moyle's three mile long fish screens will work, even though there is no evidence to support that they will work and they are non-existent. Next, there is no evidence that the proposed habitat

restoration will work. Third, Moyle assumes water diversion to the south will not increase. This claim has no basis in reality. And last, that the proposed "adaptive management" will work despite the fact that in over 30 years of using this type of management it has been a failure. Jennings also faulted Moyles when Moyles claimed "meaningful restoration is politically unfeasible." A scientist should never base decisions of science on politics.

Environment and water groups in the San Francisco Bay Area have labeled Moyle's paper for what it is in reality. It's just another of the continuing attempts of southern California organizations at a water grab.

Even the UC Davis authors admitted, "There are huge uncertainties associated with the WaterFix in terms of effects on fish." The Delta Fly Fishers will find Moyle's suggestions for the Delta's fish totally unexceptional. He claims the only thing "politically feasible" for the Delta's fish is to preserve a small number of fish in the North Delta, and turn the East, West, Central and South Delta into a "sacrifice zone" with the loss of the fish populations. It is egregiously repugnant that a scientist of Moyle's reputation would allow himself to use political expediency in his thought process rather than the best scientifically available information. It is sad, for those of us who have held Dr. Moyle in high esteem, see his scientific integrity and credibility greatly diminished.

#### Transparency Difficult To Find With California's WaterFix

A recent article by Restore the Delta (RTD) disclosed obtaining documents from Metropolitan Wa-

ter District of Southern California (MWD) and the State Water Contractors (SWC) via the Public Records Act. With the change from a twin tunnel project to a single, phased-in tunnel project the MWD and SWC need data to verify the economic viability of the project. Dr. David Sunding, an economist for the Brattle Group, is performing their analysis.

It seems the MWD and the state were working together on modeling a single, phased in tunnel project even before the DWR had presented it's testimony to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). In early January of this year, Sunding found he was not getting the preconceived desired results in his modeling of 549,000 acre-feet for the SWC. MWD suggested Sunding should use a "do-nothing" integrated regional plan baseline that estimates water supply shortage numbers. This creates a false baseline. However, Sunding didn't disclose the altered changes in his report. Because of this and other changes of the baseline, the SWC's water yield increased by 21% to 660,000 acre-feet! On the last day of January, the MWD told Sunding that the Fall Middle River environmental restrictions should be lifted with the assumption the "adaptive management" of the Delta will be successful. By doing so, Sunding's analysis falsely shows the single, phased-in tunnel scheme is economically viable. Of course, by lifting the Fall Middle River environmental restrictions, water to be used for the Delta's fish will again be diverted.

The documents also show that the MWD is still hoping for "participation project split" be-

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

tween the State Water Project (SWP) and the Central Valley Project (CVP). MWD wants the CVP users to buy 17% of the water from the single tunnel project to help in the projects funding. To date, no CVP contractors are committed to the WaterFix project.

Originally, the tunnel concept proposed that the tunnels, or tunnel, would not flow, or flow at reduced levels during dry years, to protect the Delta fish and prevent salt intrusions into our drinking water. However, the current MWD documents confirm they will be counting on the continuing water flows even during dry weather. Once again, MWD is telling us something with the full intention of violating the agreements.

Despite the WaterFix website's positive spin, the project is in disarray. This is especially true of it's financing.

The MWD is now considering low-cost federal infrastructure loans using Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) money. Traditionally WIFA loans are for infrastructure, rehabilitation, increasing water quality, and waste water and its' reclamation. WIFA loans can be 200 basis points below market value (2%). The WIFA loans could be used to finance 50-100% of the Waterfix. The MWD is also considering a joint public/private loan. During the last week of March, their Board of Directors discussed the possibility of the MWD assuming the

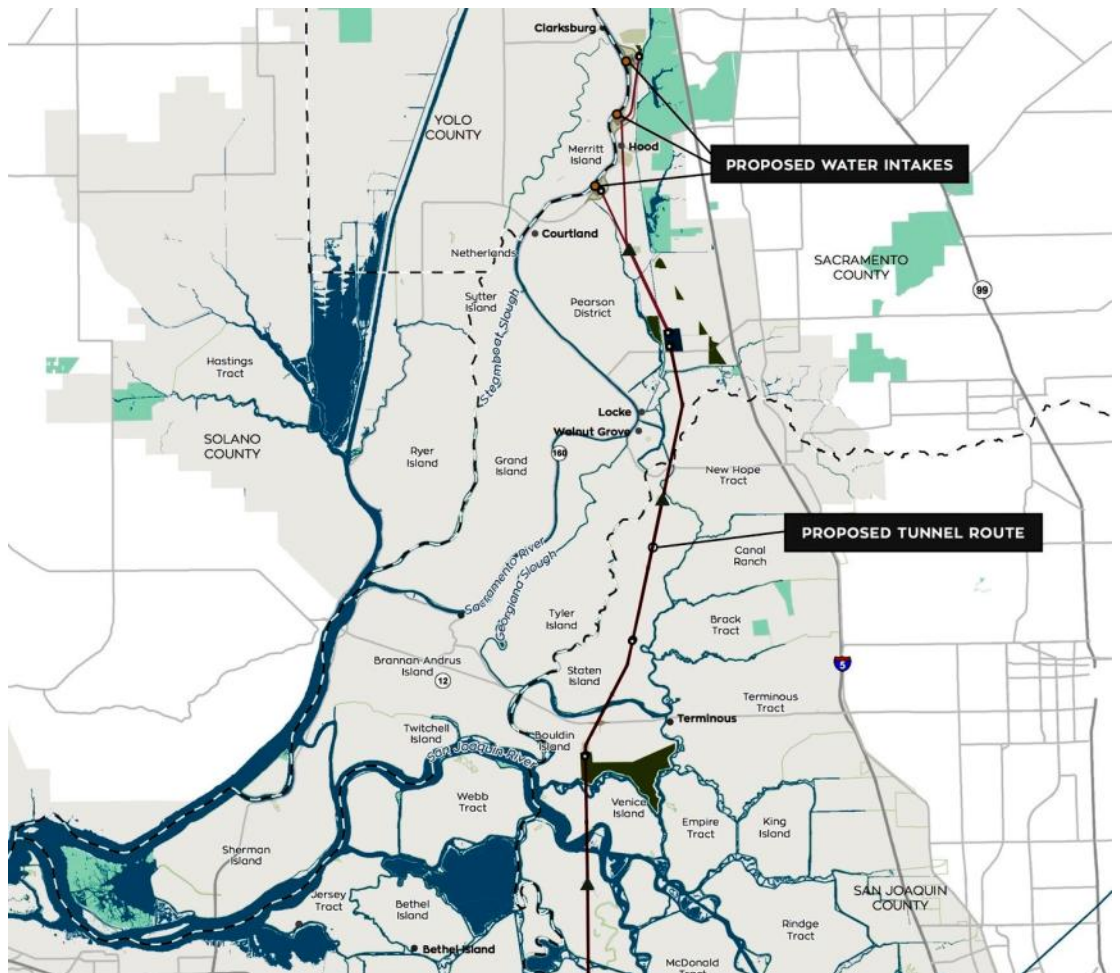
total debt. Their assumption was that servicing the debt will lead to a number of complex legal issues.

Barbara Barrigin-Parilla expressed MWD's ploys well when she commented, "The degree to which MWD is playing fast and loose with the assumptions, baselines, and planning for the Delta tunnels is astonishing. While we expect a regional water district to put it's own interest first, the terms under which it's planning the Delta's future, with the full support of the Brown Administration, feels almost fraudulent." RTD is correct in saying MWD should not be able to manipulate protestants' access to testimony at the SWB, to use faulty assumptions to gain increased water exports, to negotiate loan conditions from the Trump Administration, or to push a project that is only 10% planed and has not received the necessary per-

mits. Barrigan-Parilla and the RTD want the MWD to stop "gaming government processes" to force this project on Californians.

The alliance between the DWR and the MWD does not serve California. They both play fast and loose with the truth to further their agendas. The Brown administration is complicit with this relationship. It furthers his agenda. As the WaterFix project drags on and on, public support for the project continues to decline. The MWD is continuing to push it's agenda forward, with the help of the state's DWR, despite the devastation it will cause the Delta. It's time the Brown administration, state agencies, and legislators need do what is best for California rather than continuing to serve special interest organizations.

Ron Forbes





# Sportsman's Warehouse would like to invite all ladies to their first ever Ladies Night at the new Stockton Store, April 5th, 6pm

Ladies Night is an event that we have every year. With the increase of women hunting, fishing, hiking, we here at Sportsman's would love to see those numbers grow!

We also want ladies to know that Sportsman's Warehouse isn't just for men, but women also! During our event, we have games and raffle prizes, and although this is our first ladies night here at our Stockton store, we'd like to make it as

great as possible and to watch this event grow in the years to come.

During this event, we will sell raffle tickets, with all the proceeds from the sale being donated to a charity. The charity we've chosen is Haven Of Peace. Haven of Peace is a shelter for women and children 18-65. They offer a variety of programs to their residents, including life skills, parenting, budgeting and computer classes just to name a few.

For more detail go to the Stockton Sportsmen Warehouse page:

[https://storelocator.sportsmanswarehouse.com/...](https://storelocator.sportsmanswarehouse.com/)

The new Sportsman's Warehouse is located in the shopping center off Eight Mile Road, just west of I-5. The store features an extensive fly tying section as well as an adequate amount of fly fishing gear.

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I am dedicated to giving you the most memorable day of fishing on the Sacramento River. My passion for fly fishing and the years of meticulously studying the river have helped me to put my clients in the best situation to catch fish. Whether a beginner or experienced fly fisher, man or woman, you will have an incredible time. "Make your reservations now."



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## 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 web-site.

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 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](#), Editor 209-369-5752



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**[Save Mart Store Locator](#)**

## Stockton Store Hours

Monday - Saturday

10:00AM - 8:00PM

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10:00AM - 6:00PM

10536 Trinity Parkway

Stockton, CA

Tel. (209)851-7400

Store Manager: [Aric Emery](#)



## Rx Flyfishing!

[Delta Fly Fishers, Inc.](#)

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