



# Rx Fly Fishing!

Volume XXXVIII

Number V

May 2015

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Stockton, California

## In this Issue

Page 2—[May's program is a cornucopia of the best of Northern California](#)

Page 3—[Club member Bob Fujimura wins most fish category at One Fly Contest](#)

Page 3—[Membership Report for May](#)

Page 4—[Conservation: It's getting warmer and warmer and our fisheries will change, like it or not.](#)

Page 6—[Attention fly tiers, show us what you got!](#)

Page 6—[Fly of the month: The lowly woolly bugger](#)

Page 7—[C.J. Webb's Eastern Sierra Focus](#)

## President's message for May: Vets and new members the focus

Our month of April had very little rain and is a pretty good indication that we are destined to have a long, hot, dry summer. The Kelsey ranch outing was marked by a great lunch and a heavy wind. At this writing, our One Fly contest with our neighboring Calaveras Fly Fishers will have taken place at White Pine lake to begin the month of May. Be sure to see the write up from Bob Fujimura. The fly of the Month is rocking out with support and I encourage you to attend the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Waters, which puts wounded veterans on the water enjoying our sport. As an organization we are lending our support by making flies for these young men and women, to use for a planned trout fishing outing on the Missouri River. (See today's email from Steve Von Berg for details.) I encourage all those members wanting to demonstrate their own gratitude, to tie up a half dozen flies, for these young warriors who have given so much. Our world and news of our current wars, may seem distant, but the reality is it takes good young men and women, making

huge sacrifices to keep our enemies on distant shores. So I encourage you to extend yourself and provide flies which might make the best among us smile. Bring them to our General Meeting on May 13th.



I am excited to see a steady flow of new member sign ups so far this year. Welcome all those that are new, those renewing after a short absence, and all of our alumni. The club is getting stronger as we move into 2015. All those new members please make contact with Tim Costello, our mentor chairperson, he will pair you up with a resident club member, to help with any questions that might arise and the transition to our club. Our intent is to help you get on the water and enjoy fly fishing.

We will be speaking and demonstrating casting at the Lodi Library on the morning of May 16th for no more than a couple hours. Any volunteers to tie a few flies on the sidelines. No major presentations just tying and answering a few questions about your tying. Let me know if your

In addition, Tim has made contact with a national organization called Healing

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Calendar

May 10-- Mother's Day  
May 13--General Meeting  
May 20--BOD  
May 25--Memorial Day  
May 27—Fly of the Month

\*June 6--Shad Outing Orland Outfitters  
12:pm to 8:00 pm  
June 6--Catfish Derby  
June 10--Annual BBQ at Oak Grove Park  
\*June 11-14--Davis Lake Outing  
June 17--BOD  
June 21--Father's Day

July 4--Independence Day  
July--No General Meeting or BOD  
\*July 11--Beardsley Afterbay (Mike Nicholson)

August 12--No general meeting  
August--No BOD

\*August 1-2-- Lakes on Hwy 88 (Caples, Red, Blue, Sunset, Meadow, Little Twin) (leader?)



(Continued from page 1)  
interested.

We have our Shad outing on June 6th. And the Oak Grove Park will again ask us to help them with their June Catfish Derby. More info to follow, we will need plenty of member support.

Don't forget May 10th is Mother's Day?

Lastly, I fished at Beardsley After bay

on Tuesday last week, with Charlie Reams and Mike Nicholson. The water was low on both the Afterbay and the lake, but not unreasonably low! Mike and Charlie caught fish, and the other guy, got to practice his casting. But Mother Nature took over and awed us with her silence deep in the canyon, that's until we were entertained by an Osprey diving and screeching. The serendipity of my life with Mother Nature is why I do what I do.

Wednesday and Thursday, we lent a

helping hand to Mike putting up a new replacement fence in his back yard. I couldn't help but think about how joining DFF has increased the number of good friends I have made. A lot of you have known one another for sometime, I encourage you to spread the wealth with our new members. Find out about them, and what they need to get on the water. You won't be disappointed.

See you on the water.

## May's program is a cornucopia of the best of Northern California



This is a PowerPoint presentation with comprehensive handouts for the audience that covers locations, access points, equipment and maps needed to fish these areas.

*Lance and Kirsten have more than 50 years combined experience in fly fishing. Lance started fly fishing with his father and brother Lincoln at age 7. In his teens, he began tying flies commercially for shops all around Northern California. At 17, he went to work at Powell's in Chico, working in the fly shop and building rods. He guided for Powell's, conducted*

*fly-tying and fly-fishing schools, and traveled.*

*In 1993, Lance and Kirsten started Saltwater Innovations, a company that manufactured and distributed products for saltwater fly fishing. Lance's Crystal Popper, Gray's Billfish Fly, the KO Charlie line and the Raghead Crabs are all Saltwater Innovations products. Kirsten worked behind the scenes, handling the day-to-day operation running the manufacturing floor of the company. In 2003 they launched Lance Gray & Company, a full-*

*service outfitter offering guided trips, fly-fishing schools, workshops and a travel agency. Lance conducts presentations at fly clubs and outdoor shows and supports local groups like Cub Scouts and 4H. He's a signature tier for Solitude Fly Company, pro staff member for Sage and Rio and is a featured writer, with articles published in Angling Trade Magazine, California Fly Fisher, Fly Fishermen, Sierra Fisherman and Northwest Fly Fishing.*

*Kirsten is a fantastic photographer who's had images published in periodicals and on websites throughout the outdoor industry.*

This presentation by Lance and Kirsten Gray has a little of everything – an overview of what Northern California has to offer the fly-fisher. The venues include rivers to the lakes to the Pacific Ocean. We will cover East Park Reservoir, the Yuba River, the Moss Landing Area and the little high mountain creek called East Fork Hat Creek. We might even throw a couple of surprises in.

Northern California has many types of fish to cast a fly too. Trout, steelhead, surf perch, bluegill, bass and other species will be discussed and are represented in this presentation



## Club member Bob Fujimura wins most trout category at One Fly Contest

Fourteen Delta Fly Fishers members converged on the White Pines Lake Beach parking lot early morning of May 2 eager to compete in the Calaveras Fly Fishers' Annual One Fly Contest. Organizers for this event welcomed all participants with usual hot coffee and donuts. Most of contestants conversed with friendly smack talk and questions to find out what each other's fly selection was. The following members participated at this event: Harvey Hamlow, Larry Schmidt, Marty Kjelson, Bill Hogan, Jim Rich, Sam Thompson, Walt Kotecki, Ed Sill, Dena Mason, Charlie Reames, Ron Forbes, Bob and Jean Fujimura, and our newest member Chris Parker.

Some of the DFF participants shared reports of their pre-event fishing reports. Harvey Hamlow had fished the lake over a week

prior and had got the other club member excited with his report of over 40 fish landed. Marty Kjelson fished the lake briefly the Saturday before caught two trout but the weather was poor that day. The next day Bob Fujimura and new member Bill Hogan fished the lake. Bob caught 13 trout and Bill landed 4 trout which was accomplishment since it was Bill's first stillwater fly fishing experience. Finally, Larry Schmidt admitted that he and few other DFF members fished the lake on the Thursday before the event. Larry said that he caught 26 trout that day.

Weather conditions were warm and clear in the morning with some mild wind later in the morning. The Calaveras Fly Fishing club fielded about the same number of participants. The only omen was the relative few number

of bank fishers. Normally, the number of bankers is proportional to how many available planted trout and how recently CDFW had last planted them. The +30 competing fly fishers and their watercraft quickly covered much of the prime fishing area of the lake. The fishing this year was slow – most caught zero or one trout although a good number of bluegill and crappie were common. A few fishers caught trout in the low single digits. CFF member won the biggest fish category with one trout over 17". DFF member Bob Fujimura received the award for most trout caught with a total of eight fish landed. Bob attributed his numbers to an exotic fly that he tied; a small black red rider with chartreuse head and tail.

## Membership Report for May

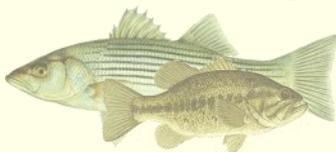
April was another good month for new memberships. Last month we gained three new members: Chris Parker and Steve Hamer of Stockton, and Norman Walker Jr. of Lodi. Our newest member Chris joined at the One Fly Contest and sounds like interested intermediate level fly fisher from the few fishing trips that he has completed. Chris is also a past DFF member of our club. Norman is interested getting enrolled into our Mentor Program. Let welcome these new members when they attend our next club activity or meeting.

Remember that new members get a great deal if they join soon. They will get the reminder of the

2014/2015 membership and the entire 2015/2016's year for the same price. Also current members get \$5 off their 2016 membership dues if the refer a new member to our club.

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One sad note, our club has lost one longstanding member Bob Boel-sems. Our condolences to Bob's spouse Barbara.



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# Conservation: It's getting warmer and warmer and our fisheries will change with the conditions, like it or not.

*Bass fisherman drink beer, watch Monday Night Football, drive pickup trucks and prefer noisy woman with big breasts. Trout fisherman watch McNeil-Lehrer (PBS News Hour), drink white wine, drive foreign cars with passenger-side airbags and hardly think about woman at all. The last characteristic may have something to do with the fact that trout fisherman spend most of their time immersed up to their thighs in ice-cold water.*

The New York Times

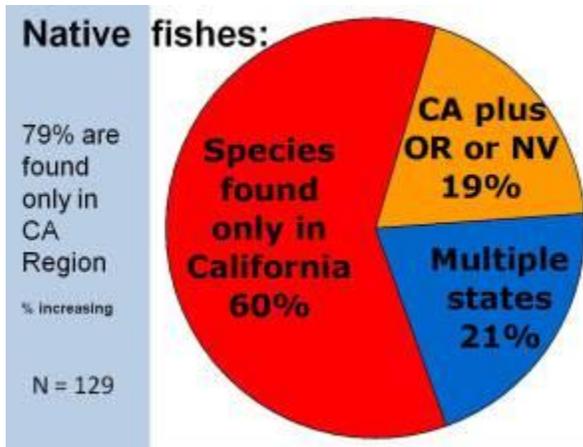
We have just ended the first quarter of the fourth year of a devastating drought. The fate of our fisheries is both nebulous and critical. Agriculture is demanding and receiving 80% of the water available with no restrictions. Both urban users and industry face 25% cut-backs of the water left. And once again the environment and fisheries are receiving none of the protections we were promised under the Co-equal Policy as required by law. As the weather continues to warm, our fisheries face the potential of disastrous consequences, including possible extinction. At the last State Water Quality Control Board Meeting, it was infuriating listening to members of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service take an unsustainable position and not defend the delta smelt. Instead, they said that the

Delta smelt "might be OK" even though only 6 fish had been found in the last trawl. However, in the latest trawl of 40 sites only one fish was found.

When I was asked to be conservation chair of Delta Fly Fishers, I looked forward to learning about our fisheries and the related environment. I had no idea just how steep the learning curve was. A few years later, Dan McDaniel asked me to join him as a director of the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fisheries (NCCFFF). At that time there were 29 directors. I was impressed with Dan's contributions to NCC and joined the conservation committee. Again another steep learning curve. The conservation directors made many significant, positive impacts on our fisheries in many areas. Most recently, I was asked to be a Water Advocate for Restore the Delta. This time the learning curve has increased exponentially. The State of California operates without an organized water policy. If you look at the state's water issues as a very sick person needing surgery, imagine it instead as a patient covered

with several hundred Band Aids that patches some problems but the patient never gets the needed surgery to thrive. This drought is making that point well to the public.

It's time to look for progressive ways to solve our water problems, but Gov.



(Continued on page 5)



## DFF Officers

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Secretary Karen Keagy	
Treasurer 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
Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
Steve VonBerg	209-327-6161
Dena Mason	
Tim Costello	
Mike Nicholson	

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Catfish Derby (June)	
Earl Summers	209-957-6756
Conservation/NCCFFF	
Ron Forbes	209-368-5767
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Fishing Mentor Program	
Membership	
<a href="#">Bob Fujimura</a>	209-339-0683
Outings	
Steve VonBerg, Gil Parker	
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Al Smatsky	209-368-9261
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Property/Historian	
John Keagy	
Publicity	
<a href="#">Steve VonBerg</a>	209-327-6161
Raffles	
Vacant	
Trout Bout (November)	
Charlie Reames	209-642-6704
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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.

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(Continued from page 4)

Brown and the legislature still have a 20th century mentality. Corporate agriculture, southern water contractors, and southern water districts are too greedy to want the current system to change. They want the taxpayers to continue making them wealthy. There are those, however, who have progressive ideas on water that can help the state thrive despite the drought.



found only in California. If we lose these fish there will be no source to replenish them. Currently our native fish face two major issues: loss and degradation of habitat and alien fish. In this drought, our fish face less and warmer water and are being denied access to safer water environments because of dams. Even without this drought, 80% of our native fish are in decline. With the continuing loss of habitat and the increasing numbers of alien fish, our native species face serious threats to their survival.

Recently the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) has written a book about the state's current water system and how it should be changed. It's titled: *Managing California's Water: From Conflict to Reconciliation*. The book is written by a biologist, three economists, an engineer, a geologist, and three attorneys. If you Google the book using its title and PPIC, it can be downloaded at no charge. The book will give you an good overview of what needs to be done to rectify some of our state's major water problems.

especially in reservoirs. Moyle said we have about 50 non-native fish in the state and many of them will thrive in the warmer altered environments where our native fish don't. In an ear-

Despite the political rhetoric, climate change is happening. Moyle predicts the effects on the ecosystem will be : 1) Major changes in precipitation patterns which will be more variable with more rain and less snow 2) Changes in our stream flows 3) increases in water temperatures 4) Increasingly server droughts and floods occurring more frequently.

### Reconciliation Ecology

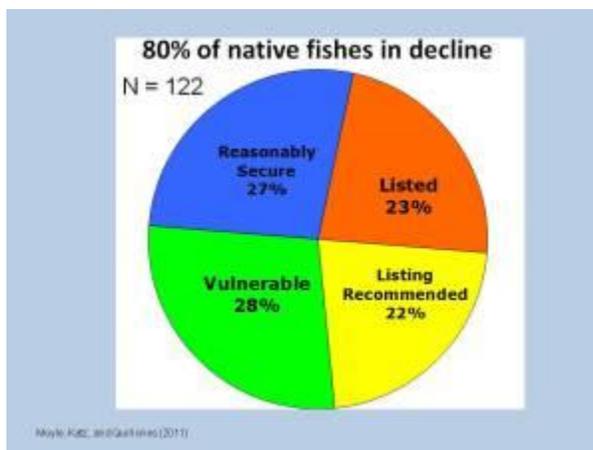
Given our drought, climate change, and our dams, our fisheries are facing major survival problems. In a recent talk, Dr. Peter Moyle, a biologist from UC Davis, proposes initiating what he refers to as reconciliation ecology to deal with the changing environment. With the drought, there will be less water available below our dams and the water will be warmer. Our tail water fisheries will decline. There will be a loss of habitat and fragmentation of small streams as they dry up and are no longer connected with other streams. Even streams that normally have a perennial flow are drying up and we will be facing major fish die-offs. The only way to reestablish these fisheries will be to recolonize them from other sources.



The loss of our snow pack will have a major negative effect on our stream flows which is the major habitat for our native fish.

lier drought, the lower, warmer water in the Delta gave non-natives a big advantage over natives and changed the entire ecosystem. When native species are depressed, non-natives take over. Presently, 79% of our native fish are found only in the California Region (California, Oregon, and Washington) and 60% of these are

It is expected that the air temperature will increase 4-6 degrees C. and water temperatures will increase 3-5 degrees C. by the year 2100. Lethal water temperatures for fish will occur more often. The colder water will shift to the north and to higher elevations. Moyle showed a graph of climate change vulnerability for critical or high extinction probability of native and alien fish. The probability is that 82% of the native fish vs. 19% of the alien fish are vulnerable. Moyle said, "It's grim, the future we are looking at for native fishes. It's grim because of the increased human use of water combined with natural changes that will take place from the result of climate change." He pointed out that our conservation efforts are fragmented. We do a



Non-native fish will do better in the warmer water than our natives,

(Continued on page 6)

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little here and a little there, but don't face the big picture. He said we need to initiate action to save our fish. He recommended:

- . Native fish rescue facilities
- . A statewide database where fish are found and where they have been found in the past
- . Protecting the best habitats of what's left
- . Restore watershed areas. It has been shown that if watershed areas are restored the fish return
- . Improve environment flows below dams
- . Consider dam removal
- . Manage our floodplains. Native fish are found to be very well adapted to floodplains and salmon grow 2-3 times faster on a floodplain

When you become involved with issues to preserve our fisheries and the



environment it is easy to become overwhelmed . There are so many issues to contend with. And these issues are very complex. Those who are driven by self-interest and financial gain, instead doing what's right, are an enormous problem. Our club has been part of the fight with issues like the Penn Mine and the restoration of Chinook salmon on the Mokelumne, an action that resulted in the Joint

Settlement Agreement between CSPA, the Department of Fish and Wildlife and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD).

Because of our suit EBMUD is now a major force in protecting the salmon on the Mokelumne River. Our support of California Sportfishing Protection Alliance and Restore the Delta shows our continuing fight for our fisheries. Eight years ago, 35 or 40 people

attended a meeting at UOP to protect the Delta. Now Restore the Delta has 15,000 members and has been instrumental in opposing Gov. Brown's Twin Tunnel's Project. None of these battles are easy, but they will be won if we keep fighting.

Ron Forbes  
Conservation Chair

## Attention Fly Tiers, now is the time to show us what you got!

Board member Tim Costello would like to invite club members to get involved with **Project Healing Waters**, a group dedicated to helping our wounded veterans enjoy the pleasures of fly fishing. Tim would like our fly tying members to tie half a dozen flies to be given to the veterans for their outings. Tim recommends flies

like hare's ears, pheasant tails, Adams and caddis--- small flies that may be too difficult for injured vets to tie. However, other flies would also be greatly appreciated. Anything you can do would be helpful.

**Project Healing Waters** will be taking a group of vets to the Mis-

souri River for a trout outing in the near future. Usually, 20 to 30 vets participate at any given time. Knowing that, Tim would like members to bring flies to the **May 13th meeting**. Once he has the flies, he will promptly send them to the vets. For more information contact Tim at [4tmcostello@gmail.com](mailto:4tmcostello@gmail.com).

## Fly of the Month: The lowly woolly bugger

Woolly buggers have probably accounted for more fish being caught than any other fly. They can be cast and striped, trolled, swung in the current, or dead drifted under an indicator. They can represent both insects such as the damsel fly larva or a stone fly as well as a sculpin or minnow.

And best of all, in the larger sizes, they are easy to tie. So easy that they are usually the first fly tied in a fly tying class. They involve learning some of the basic skills to build on when moving on to more complex flies.

This month's tying session will focus on two versions of this fly, the old standard size eight black woolly bugger that can be used in a number of situations and a smaller version, short bodied with a wiggle tail that is generally tied to imitate a damsel fly nymph. As is usual, the class will take place at the Nature Center, Oak Grove Park on the fourth Wednesday of the month, May 27th, at 6:00pm. A fee of \$3.00 for the materials will be charged. The club has loaner tying equipment for those without tools.



By CJ Webb

**Watch for Deer Migration - STAY ALERT!**

*Opening Weekend April 25, 2015*

*It seems as though this has been the longest summer on record, starting April 2012! The mildest winter since 1977 produced only 6 snow-storms with two horrific wind-storms and the 2nd worse drought since 1977. March spoiled us with mild temperatures and garden-planting fever, then early April produced a couple snow storms and disappointed my Daffy's, but they survived. Mid April warmed up giving everyone a false sense of security that opening weekend would be warm and spring like. But another storm spanked the Sierra with 8 inches of snow in the wee hours of the morning of the 25th, covering the dark areas of thin ice on Big Virginia. Fortunately the ice had pulled away from shore enough to discourage the bravest ice fishermen. The winds kept most of the anglers away or inside enjoying their favorite sports. Eastern Sierra weather is always unpredictable, and Mother Nature never fails to constantly remind us she is in control!*

**News -**

The latest legislation and the first hearing for the Sport-fishing Stimulus Act of 2015 (SB 345; Berryhill, R-Twain Harte), is set for Tuesday April 28th in Sacramento.

It is believed that fishing's economic impact is threatened by an unprecedented decline in participation that is due, in part, to one of the costliest annual fishing licenses in the nation not being valid for a full year from the date of purchase according to Marko Mlikotin, Executive Director for the California Sport-fishing League (CSL). He also states that "California needs to abandon its exist-

ing licenses program and remove barriers to participation by making recreational fishing more affordable. In doing so, jobs will be created and communities will grow stronger."

DFW reports 2015 stocking will be down by 40% due to budgetary problems within the department through the legislature. As previously reported, the size of trout to be stocked this summer were has changed to 2 to a pound instead of the original 4 to a pound. Stocking will probably be done every other week but that could also change. The normal trout production year was 4 million pounds of trout, and 2014 saw 3.28 million pounds, and 2015 will see 1.6 million pounds meaning many waters may not get planted but if they do, they will be drastically cut from prior years. Stafford Lehr, Chief of Fisheries stated they need to "find" \$2 million that could be allocated to the hundreds of thousands of fishermen in California that buy licenses. But obviously, "someone" in the Department doesn't see that as important.

All Mono County waters were heavily stocked prior to the trout opener by DWF and Desert Springs out of southern Oregon.

CalTrans will be working on US395 along Mono Lake starting May 4th to improve safety for the traveling public by minimizing rocks falling from the steep adjacent slopes. The project also includes a plant establishment program on the six slopes involved to reduce erosion, establish healthy soil, and promote successful revegetation. Be prepared for daily lane closures with delays no longer than 20 minutes Monday thru Thursday from 5am to 8pm and Fridays 6am to 3pm with flaggers and a pilot car. But starting May 12th, there could be one hour delays but notices will be posted when the dates are determined.

My annual scouting was good but lake testing was minimal due to rotator cuff surgery and looking forward to using a rod in mid May when the

shoulder has a lot more strength.

Remember to check the regulations prior to fishing unfamiliar water concerning limits, size, and other restrictions.

**ROCK CREEK LAKE** is ice free, but no report on angler success. Mosquito flats road is plowed to parking area. Resort scheduled to open by Memorial weekend. Creek flow has been around 32cfs as of the 24th.

**CROWLEY** water level is rising faster now with present elevation of the lake at 6763.7 ft. versus 6781 at the spillway. Because of the excellent food source in the 5280-acre reservoir, the hatches have been good so expect fish to be larger on the average and in the feeding mode. A lot of these fish are from previous years or are wild fish produced in Crowley's tributary waters. Fish are spread out but decent in most areas with higher water temps. The fish are also at various depths, 25 ft of water suspended at 16 ft at Stormy Flats so adjust to fit the depth. Watch for a second Crowley Cam at the Fish Camp boat ramp soon with streaming video.

**UPPER OWENS** is poor and the water cleared some and now back to normal. Try some large flashy patterns. Dries working are Parachute Adams, Stimulator #16, Elk Hair Caddis #16-18, and Brook's Hot Creek Caddis #18. Nymphs: Zebra midge #18-20, red copper John, #14-18, Prince nymph #14-18, red San Juan worm #12, flashback hares ear #14-18, flashback pheasant tail #16, Black Bead Bird's nest #14, Nitro Caddis #14, and Nori's Caddis Pupa Green #16-1. Streamers: Perfection Perch, Punk Perch, Sculpin Patterns, Meat Whistle, black and purple Woolly Buggers.

**CONVICT LAKE** was heavily stocked and reports were good but mostly on bait. Trophy trout were stocked for their Derby, with good reports. Try the inlet and outlets and keep your line tight should a "Desert

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

Springs Beauty" cruise the area. Try some Woolly Buggers in black, olive or purple and if you have any with rubber legs, tie 'em on and be prepared. It's been a long dry winter and they are easily entertained. Use just enough line to drift by their nose BUT don't overcast.

**HOT CREEK** flume is at 18cfs and water is clear, but will produce when the temps are at their peak. Knowing how to throw a good drift to get into fish is essential. Some caddis in the afternoons with baetis in the am but not a lot of rises and this always changes as the weather warms up. Trout are mostly taking small mayflies with good numbers just no size. Dries: Parachute Adams size 20, Extended body blue winged olive 20-22 and Griffith's Gnats. Nymphs taking fish are WD-40 #20-22 Grey RS2 emergers, #18-20, Tungsten Psycho 18-20, olive Micro-mayflies #18, Zebra Midge 20-22, and Frostbite Midge 20-22. Streamers - no go.

**MAMMOTH BASIN** road crew cleared the basin and all lakes are thawed. Basin was stocked by DFW for the opener and they will be getting 15,000 pounds in the Lakes Basin by the Town this summer.

**SAN JOAQUIN** flow is low at 52cfs with normal around 200cfs. Road to Agnew Meadows, Devils Postpile, Rainbow Falls and Reds Meadow is projected to open by May 19th.

**JUNE LAKE** loop has been open since March 14th. The June Lake cage culture program did not raise fish this past winter but it is still holding Kamloop Rainbows for DFW due to water issues at Junction Reservoir. Wind also pummeled the loop and not many boats attempted the conditions. Reports were dark streamers using quick action near weedy areas by the west end of the lake (as always) also near the south shore. There are a lot of deer moving into in the area, so stay alert and avoid wrecking your trip.

**GULL LAKE** iced out in early

March and was stocked for the opener. Gary put in some really nice trophies for the opener so bring your best streamers, buggers and a dropper near the reeds. Check in at the shop and see what's hot.

**SILVER LAKE** also iced out mid March and was stocked last Monday by DFW and 400 pounds of large rainbows from Desert Springs of Oregon averaging 5pounds. Fishing was good overall according to non-fly anglers. My choice would be to hit the smaller areas of the inlet and outlet for browns cruising for larger morsels to whet their appetites. Lake is only about 11" down.

**RUSH CREEK:** Flows above Grant Lake are up to 60cfs and 33cfs below. No report on fly action.

**GRANT LAKE** is extremely low and anticipating some run-off, but there's still a lot of water to fish, try the south shore (drive) or the inlet (park and walk) for trophy's cruising for smaller fish. Check with Ernie's or the Grant Lake Marina for current info.

**LUNDY LAKE** is ice free and down due to low snow pack and the road is open all the way to the back-canyon restroom. The lake has come up one foot similar to 2014 and Edison is letting the lake rise to meet water requirements for the area. The resort will open around mid June from the latest report. You can hit the ponds for some great dry fly action or the inlet on the mountain side of the resort. These are always a good option to blow-out conditions but it is muddy. DFW didn't plant due to the possibility of the truck getting stuck and no one around to assist.

**VIRGINIA LAKES ROAD** has been open all winter to Rand Road due to the lack of snow. The County plowed and cleared the parking area at Big Virginia on the 17th.

**BIG VIRGINIA** has a lot of water showing at the outlet and 10-14 feet of water along the entire east shore with more at the inlet and the entire lake is dark. The ice will break down

fast due to the warm weather of March and early April. It's the density of the ice, not the thickness. No one was on the ice for the opener. Smart!

**LITTLE VIRGINIA** thawed on the April 11th. Weather was cloudy and cool most of the week prior to the opener with night temperatures between the high 20's to low 30's. Only a few braved the conditions early morning, but a few tubers hit the water late Saturday afternoon and two anglers reported 30 fish C&R but they didn't want to say what they used. The bugs out (very small and dark), were definitely midges but possibly a hungry mosquito on the hunt. Sunday saw about 15-18 anglers on and off all day, with about 9 tubers mostly using flies but not a lot of success until late afternoon.

**TRUMBLE LAKE** has been ice free since April 9th and snow around the lake was gone until the storm early am on the 25th. A few small snow patches remain throughout the campground. No one fished it on opening day due to the weather. Saw a couple hatches earlier in the week and trout were rising so small dries would have been my choice, small black midges, Griffith's Gnat, green body mosquito size 18 or even a parachute Adams size 18. A few anglers showed on Sunday but not much luck even on bait.

**EAST WALKER** flow continues to hover around 20cfs with good reports of high count fish days. I managed to scout the area and found a bounty of bugs before the cold snap. Reports say some really nice fish up to 24" were landed on both the CA and NV sides of the river. Best spot is below the bridge on the CA side. Don't give up on the Miracle Mile it can be unpredictable and productive as well. Low clear water is the current norm so fish are skittish; tread softly to avoid spooking them prior to tossing a fly. Try woolly buggers, double bunnies, flashback emerger, WD-40,

*(Continued on page 9)*

(Continued from page 8)

white Zebra midge, Rainbow Warrior, Micro-mayflies, stimulators, rubber leg stimulator and Chubby Chernobyl.

**BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR** and the feeder creeks are very low but fairly clear. Lake has been stocked and DFW bows were ready for some action. Also, an unexpected load of catchable browns appeared out of nowhere. The Rez fished fairly well from boats and shore but mostly on bait. Conditions will improve after the low-pressure moves out. Tube the drop-offs with Hornbergs, leeches and perch patterns. Also try Callibaetis nymphs, broken back midges, and flashback pheasant tails for good action. The Rez will fish well early in the season and hopefully get more water from run-off depending on what comes out of the canyons into the confluence. There is a small boat launch/courtesy dock near the dam that will get you on the water. Check with Jeff at the marina for flies, boat rentals and current fishing info.

**WEST WALKER** flow is 160cfs but

it's early, it will get higher as the temps increase this week. Look for great action the entire length of the "West" into town. DFW stocked some nice fish, but no report if North County Chamber put in some Desert Springs fatties, but I'm sure they did. Flows have been a bit inconsistent but without the huge run-off numbers as in the past. The town will also be hosting two big Derby's this summer. Check their website for details (Northern Mono County Chamber of Commerce). No report due to weather.

**KIRMAN LAKE** - Reports from yesterday that the weather was nasty and anglers that fished were soaked and frozen with only a few caught on streamers. The weather is going to be great for the next week, so probably try Seal Buggers, Matukas or Mini Leeches with an AP emerger or soft hackle dropper.

**TIOGA PASS** ~ is still currently closed from Crane Flat to the Mono County line on the pass. The Mono County side has been cleared to the pass but currently closed due to recent

storm. Saddlebag, Tioga and Ellery all remain frozen and/or inaccessible.

**Please note:** Tioga Pass will be undergoing a resurfacing project that is in progress from Crane Flat to White Wolf and is scheduled to conclude in November 2015. Once the road opens for the season, expect 15-60 minute delays depending on the time of day. Work will be 24 hours a day beginning Sunday at 11pm through Friday at 4:30pm. Big Oak Flat road tunnels will also have delays. Check their website for specific times. If you can't locate it email me at (vlresort@wildblue.net) and I'll send you the schedule.

**SONORA PASS** – Opened April 17th (subject to storm closure) and closed currently due to storm but will reopen tomorrow.

**MONITOR PASS** opened on March 7th (subject to storm closure) but has been closed off and on for storms may reopen in 2 days.

See you on the water, CJ  
(15.4)

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## Your help is needed on June 6th at the CATFISH DERBY

Join other DFFers in helping San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation conduct the annual Catfish Derby at Oak Grove Park.

Early crew needed at the park by 5:30am to help set up.

Additional volunteers needed at 7:30-8:00 to help with registration and man the DFF food both.

You can sign up at the club's membership meeting on May 13th.

And here's another date to put on your calendar

June 10th is the date of the club's annual Barbecue and potluck.

Great club provided barbecued steaks, a grand member supplied pot luck,  
Giant raffle and silent auction. Be there!!!!

## 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.

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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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