

September 2010

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx

Flyfishing

President's Message by Stephen Johnson (the top dog in camp)

September 2010

A train wreck is the only way I can describe this last month. My battle with the Federal Government continues, yes a trial was held for 7 days in Fresno, yes the jury has come up with a verdict...not what I had hoped for but a verdict, and no it is not over. Today (August 30th) the Judge in the case has reversed part of the verdict...so on we go spending more money.

I would like to thank the DFF board and committee chairperson for trying to keep a smooth operation in my absence...not that I ran anything smoothly, but well, Thanks Gentlemen for the help!

Fishing trips with yours truly present have been a big fat zero...no time. However my faithful band of merry feather flingers send warm regards from Craig Montana where the Missouri is fish very well with large Browns (20 to 24 in.) being caught early and late every day. Dave Roberts is in Yellowstone attending the National FFF Conclave and fishing all the local waters the Gallatin, Madison, Lamar Valley on to the Firehole and last but not least the Henry' Fork on his way home...should have some great pictures for next month.

Alan Blankenship and Charlie Costner from up on the Sac, McCloud and Pit River areas say come on up...great fishing and this year's weather is outstanding...no heat to speak of, fish all day with nice fish caught on dry's and nymphs.

Local waters are producing some nice bass and carp in the evenings...Modesto Reservoir is very nice middle week for carp.

I won't bore you with more information...Ron Forbes will cover it as well but our Steelhead of the Central Valley won a big decision in court this week...this helps define the direction for the Delta Water wars and right now we... fisherman... are in the driver's seat. Check out, www.Calfish.net for all the details.

Kate is on the war path...no new books and no fishing trips since mid-July...this falls into the category of "when mamma (Kate) isn't happy, nobody's happy", anybody want to take my dog fishing so she will relax?

Steve...the absent lately President...and Kate the pouting pup

DFF MENTOR PROGRAM


The Delta Fly Fishers Board of Directors, intent upon enhancing the existing Fishing Buddy Program, is proposing DFF adopt a Mentor Program which is proactive and broadly inclusive. The primary objective is, by sharing fly fishing skills and knowledge of existing DFF members with new members, this will assist new members in getting acquainted with existing members, with club activities and, generally speed the transition from new member to old friend.

The Board of Directors recognizes this will take considerable commitment from the existing membership and does encourage the active participation of current members. The following broad guidelines are thought to be necessary for this program.

- Every existing member willing to serve, as a Mentor will be asked to complete a skills/knowledge list that they will share with new members as requested. The Mentor Program Chairperson will maintain these documents.
- Every new member will be asked to complete a skills/knowledge request form, which the Mentor Program Chair will also maintain.
- The Mentor Program Chair will introduce any and all new members before the General Program begins and will make an effort to introduce the new members to DFF Officers and Board Members.
- Under consideration is the additional incentive for new members of some free raffle tickets.
- The Mentor Program Chair will follow up on matching a Mentor with a new member based on skills/knowledge sought and skills/knowledge available. The mentor and new member will work out a compatible schedule by which to transfer skills/knowledge. The Mentor Program Chair as needed can make reassignments.
- Examples of mentoring include such things as guiding a new member on local waters within a few months of assignment, accompany the new member to a local fly shop to assist with gear purchases, contact the new member a few days before each monthly meeting to remind the new member of the meeting and program, assisting with casting skills, how to tie useful knots and/or fly tying, sharing information regarding fly fishing destinations including basic travel tips and promoting new members to join DFF in its outings

Over time the Mentor Program may be extended to include existing members who want to learn new skills/knowledge.

Fishing Mentor Request	
NAME _____	_____
DATE _____	_____
PHONE CONTACTS: (1) _____	_____
(2) _____	_____
The best time to contact me is _____	_____
My E-mail address is: _____	_____
I WOULD LIKE A FISHING MENTOR TO HELP ME WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Casting	<input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying
<input type="checkbox"/> Attending Outings	<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Knot Tying	<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 Mentor Chairman: Steve Cooper, 956-1032 or e-mail @ repooc3@sbcglobal.net Mail the form to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862 Stockton, CA 95207	



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Wednesday Night Casting & Fly Tying



The weekly Wednesday evening fly casting sessions will continue through the Spring, Summer and Fall. Meet at the Nature Center, in the Oak Grove Park, at 6:30. The exception is the 2nd Wednesday night when DFF has its monthly meeting.

Whether you are a novice and want tips on how to cast or an expert that wants an excuse to get out of the house, then come out for the camaraderie of other members. This is an excellent chance improve your fly Casting and/or BS abilities. For more information contact Jim Rich at 477-6404.

There also will be opportunities for fly tying. For more information contact Joe Balderston at 474-8515.

Membership Form

Regular membership – \$30*

Family Membership – \$35*

62 years or older – \$25.00*

*New members please add \$5.00 Initiation Fee

Dues are for one year, from September 1 to August 31 Please fill out then mail to:

Delta Fly Fishers

PO Box 1562

Lodi, CA 95241-1562

Check one:

New membership _____ Renew membership _____

Regular Membership:

One year \$30.00 _____

Senior (62+) \$25.00 _____

Family Membership:

One year \$35.00 _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____

Cell (____) _____ - _____

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 Fujimura at 209-948-7097 or e-mail at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com.

Membership

Please welcome our newest members of the Delta Fly Fishers:

William Chinnock III

Ray Brudernich

Bill Brown

Elizabeth Fortin

Thank everyone who has already renewed their annual memberships in August.

Those persons who still haven't sent their due should mail their annual dues and their contact information to:

Bob Fujimura, Membership Chairperson, PO Box 1562, Lodi, CA 95241-1562.

If you are new to fly fishing, or would just like to increase your expertise, use the DFF Mentor Program. DFF has several very talented and knowledgeable members that would just love to help you.

Again welcome to the Delta Fly Fishers!



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Conservation

by Ron Forbes

We Won !

Over three years ago I received a phone call from Steve Mashuda an attorney for Earthjustice. He was asking Delta Fly Fishers to be intervenors in a suit Earthjustice was bringing against the Modesto Irrigation District (MID). The district claimed they shouldn't have to protect steelhead in their waters as required by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the steelhead are not a threatened species. Their logic was that the hatchery steelhead plus the wild steelhead exist in numbers that would take the fish off the list of threatened species. NMFS however claimed there is a distinct difference between hatchery and wild fish and that the wild fish are threatened with extinction. Earthjustice agreed with NMFS and filed suit to make the Modesto Irrigation District comply. I brought the matter before our Board of Directors (BOD) and after checking out our responsibilities in the suit our BOD voted unanimously to be intervenors in the action.

The suit drug on but eventually we won the action and most of us thought battle was over. We were wrong however and MID was joined in an appeal of our win along with five other water districts. Those districts are: the Turlock ID, the Merced ID, the Oakdale ID and the South San Joaquin ID and as you might expect, the Stockton East Water District. After the trial, the decision by a three member panel drug on and on. Then Fri. Aug. 20th, I received a very short e-mail from Steve Mashuda. It said simply, "We won!" The decision process has been dragging on for almost a year and it took be a few seconds to fully understand his message. I was elated. It is a great win for the fish. After this loss Steve Mashuda, thinks the water districts will abandon this approach against the fish.

What many people don't understand is the California's Department of Fish and Game tried to estimate the salmon and steelhead populations around the 1900's. Because of the lack of equipment they couldn't get a scientifically accurate numbers, but said the species numbered in the several millions of fish. But today in over twenty rivers and streams flowing into the Sacramento River now 19 of those steelhead populations are extinct. Two years ago only 296 salmon returned to the Mokelumne River. Today we have only 5% of the population of salmon and steelhead we once had. About 95% of our fish population has disappeared in the Central Valley because of dams, pollution and the actions of water districts that consistently refuse to respect and protect our environment which leads to the loss of our fish population along with other things. Groups like MID don't want the people to understand is that there is a big difference between wild and hatchery fish. A fish biologist at Oregon State found that natural or wild trout will reproduce in the high 80's to low 90's percentile, whereas hatchery fish will do little better than 50% in reproducing themselves. And it seems to drop of to an even lower rate for the next generation of hatchery fish. For this reason it is important we continue to fight for the wild fish or we will see their extinction in our lifetime.

There were four groups ask to be intervenors in this case. They are: The Center for Biological Diversity, NCCFFF, Trout

Unlimited, and Delta Fly Fishers. Had we lost this case the water districts would have gone ahead with their usual ME FIRST and business as usual attitude and other water districts would have followed leading to the loss of even more fish in the Central Valley and throughout the state. And very soon steelhead in the Central Valley would cease to exist. We in Delta Fly Fishers should take a great deal of pride in our club for being part of this action. We stood up and were counted.

Good job Delta Fly Fishers!!

The Town Hall Meeting

The Foothill Conservancy asked Delta Fly Fishers to attend a Town Hall meeting with Representative Dan Lungren (R-Gold River) and urge him to support Wild and Scenic River status for the Mokelumne River. The meeting was held in Elk Grove. Bruce and Sallye Rollans, Jerry Neuberger and I attended the meeting in mid-August and it was interesting. First, let's just say some rather odd people attend those meetings like the rather strange gentleman who expressed his conspiracy theories about 9-11. There were a variety of topics discussed and finally Jerry was called upon. He told Lungren why he was there and why the Mokelumne needs Wild and Scenic status from an economic and recreational point of view and that it has popular local support. Jerry talked about how raising the Pardee Dam was not a popular idea locally. Lungren's response can at best be described as a sharing of misinformation. He first went off on how there are good and bad dams then talked about his efforts to have Hetch Hetchy Dam removed. Then about how he had heard how some people were against it and he was concerned about land owner's property rights. Since land owners will not lose any property rights, Lungren basically was telling us he does not understand the issue. Jerry was not really allowed to reply to Lungren's comments and we were blown off just after the meeting also. Many of Lungren's political comments that evening were typical party-line rhetoric. It will be interesting to see if he will change his point of view because his support is necessary for the rivers designation as Wild and Scenic. At this point it does not look promising.

Fish Factoids

from Page-a-day Calendar – Workman Publishing

Unconventional Techniques

Ever wonder if you could catch a trout with your socks? Vonada Ranck did just that in 1994 after he saw a brook trout surfacing in Fishing Creek in Tylersville, Pennsylvania. The fish were hitting small white debris floating with the current. Ranck quickly pulled the socks from his feet, cut a small bit of the white fabric, and attached it to a hook. The fish responded and after improvising further with some homespun white thread Ranck returned and landed the Pennsylvania state record brookie. The fish weighed in at seven pounds and remains the state record to this day.

Establishing Fish Passage On the Calaveras River

By Ron Forbes

In mid-July, I attend a river walk with the Friends of the Lower Calaveras River (FLCR) along the diversion of the Calaveras River. The US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Donnie Ratcliff was giving a talk of the passage of salmon and steelhead in the Calaveras River. The point of the walk was to show how Stockton East Water District and USFWS will be working together on the river to remove some of the barriers to fish passage. The barrier to be removed at that location is a flash dam which is used to raise the river level in the growing season for irrigation. After the season the boards will be removed and rock will be placed on the down streamside of the dam. There will be seven rock barriers across the river each raising the water level about 12" in height. This height difference will allow for fish passage both up and downstream. According to Ratcliff, most of the problems on the Calaveras are from the young fish not being able to move down stream to reach the San Joaquin River and to move into the Delta and out to sea. Like most dams in California, New Hogan Dam prevents the historical fish passage to the upper river. From New Hogan to its confluence with the San Joaquin River, the Calaveras is approximately 38 miles in length and has about 96 barriers that impede or prevent the fish movement to spawning beds. This also hinders the ability of the fish to reproduce. This month I spoke with John Green, Assistant General Manger, of Stockton East Water District (SEWD) who told me that only four barriers are serious enough to prevent fish passage. They have applied for permits to remove them. Now they are waiting for the permits to be approved. As you know rain fall and not snow melt is the water source for the river. Some of the barriers on the river are bridges, dams, and in some cases road crossings. At this point the four major barriers are the chief sources that prevent access to the spawning beds.

It seems that the USFWS and SEWD have matching funds for this project. In the talk it seemed that some of the decisions that have been made are more pragmatic rather than decisions based on science. Of course, originally there was a fall and spring run of Chinook salmon as well as the steelhead run. With the water used for irrigation on the Calaveras, the spring run of salmon no longer exists and SEWD feels they are not responsible to restore that run. There are several issues that need to be looked at in reestablishing the runs. Another major issue I can see is that the two agencies are working on the diversion of the Calaveras and not the river itself. There are no trees or other protection on the diversion canal and it's less than a favorable habit for the fish.

At this point I'm having trouble getting the information needed to keep the Delta Fly Fishers up to date on the Calaveras Rivers barrier removal project. I do have some other sources that I am working with so we can stay on top of what is happening. However SEWD has nothing about this project on its website. Nor is there any information for the public from the USFWS. More about this project later.

Also I have learned that FLCR has a Steelhead Day planned sometime in May of 2011. Details are still somewhat hard to come by but we may want to become involved in this Steelhead

Day project. Hopefully I'll be getting more information on this project shortly. Hey, who knows more about steelhead than our club members.

The Rock Snot is Back

As you might remember about three years ago I reported that an invasive alga was found on the Klamath River behind one of the dams and of the problems it was causing. It is called didymo or more commonly "rock snot". It is a type of algae known as a diatom and its scientific name is *Didymosphenia geminata*. Diatoms are a major group of algae and are unicellular but some exist in filaments. They are unique in that their cell wall is made of silica. The problem it causes is that it can cover and entire river or stream with mats of algae. Didymo mats on a river or stream can be 8" thick and will kill a fishery.

Ken Davis has put the word out that he discovered the algae on Bear Creek. Ken was on NCCFFB BOD's and is the biologist that discovered the New Zealand mud snail on Putah Creek. Didymo can be found on rocks and in moving water. People who have seen it say it looks like toilet paper or even fiberglass in clumps. It isn't slimy like most algae and has been described as feeling like wet cotton in some articles. Its colors are tan, yellow or brown. Being single-celled it is invisible to our eyes unless in mats or clumps.

And just like the mud snail the prime source for contamination in our rivers and streams seems to be the fisherman. We carry the didymo on our boots, waders (especially felt soled waders), on our float tubes, boats, pontoon boats etc. Any gear that has been in water contaminated with didymo MUST be considered source for spreading the algae and a major source of contamination for a river or stream.

If you have been in didymo water do the following:

- 1) Remove any and all mud or debris from all your gear and leave it there. Any water from that area must stay there and not be transported to other areas.
- 2) Soak all your gear in a 5% solution of dish washing detergent (2 cups of detergent in 16oz of water)
- 3) Felt-soled waders are a special problem as is anything absorbent. Soak these items in a 5% solution detergent solution for 30 min at water at 113 degrees F or higher.
- 4) Freezing any object solid will kill didymo.
- 5) Drying will also kill didymo. The object must be bone dry inside and out. Then wait 48 hours after the gear was first dry to make sure the algae totally dead.
- 6) DO NOT wash off your gear at home and wash the rinse water down the drain. Your waste water will contaminate waters downstream. Like our Delta.
- 7) Any gear that is not totally and thoroughly dry is a source of contamination. Even if didymo is just slightly moist, it will stay alive for months.

There are other ways to stop the spread and disinfect your gear but I have included these because they are easy to follow and won't hurt you gear in treatment. Boats are going to be a special problem and will require special treatment. More on this later. As a club we need to stay on top of this issue and prevent the spread of the didymo. If you have any questions on this feel free to call me at (209) 368 5767.

DFE Officers 2010

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(Open)

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Help support your club by buying and using club merchandise.

Polo Shirt w/logo Now on Sale (Limited sizes available)	\$15.00
Ball cap structured/unstructured (New item)	\$13.00
Lapel Pin	\$ 7.00
License Plate Frames	\$ 3.00
Official Coffee Mug	\$ 5.00
DVD Fishing How To Rentals (3 weeks max)	\$ 2.00



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Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

Bob McMillan Trout Bout

(February)

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

Web Site

Harold Bacich hbtwm@sbcglobal.net

net

Fishing Mentor Program

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

SAVE MART MARKETS – S.H.A.R.E.S

DFE has joined with Save Mart Markets via the S.H.A.R.E.S. program. DFE earns 3% of most purchases made by customers using the card provided to DFE by Save Mart.

Since the last report about our SHARES participation, the membership has responded to the need. The donations from SHARES for the past two quarters totaled approximately \$484.00. Thank you membership. We have an additional 50 SHARES cards coming that will be distributed to new members, family and friends. Continue to shop Save Mart Markets! There is no additional cost to you. It merely gives 3% to DFE that otherwise would go to market profit.



Membership Meeting

September 8

Board Meeting

September 15

October Newsletter

The deadline for the

October issue is

September 25th



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September General Meeting Joe Contaldi



Our speaker for the September 8th members meeting will be Joe Contaldi who will speak on fly fishing the Eastern Sierra. Joe is the head guide and manager of Performance Anglers Guide Service in Mammoth Lakes, Ca. Joe began his life-long angling addiction at the ripe age of four. Fishing the streams of the New Jersey countryside as a young lad, Joe lived “tight lines” and “bent rods” even before entering into kindergarten.

When asked in his first math class what the sum of ten plus twelve is, he offered the response, “About the number of fish that I caught yesterday!” Relocating to Southern California during his high school years, Joe began to explore all of the So Cal waters, and all that they have to offer. Joe’s history of angling in Southern California is exceptionally respectable. “Matuka Joe” has twenty years to-date of fishing and guiding experience in the Eastern Sierra. He understands all of the fish species, and the vast majority of fishable waters in Mono and Inyo Counties. Likewise, Joe has a history of hanging out with salty dawgs, bringing to the decks of countless ocean charter boats plenty of Bluefin, Yellowfin, Albacore, Dorado, and almost every other saltwater species one can find off of the coast of Southern California. Ask him about it next time you are in the shop.

The fifteen years that Joe committed to running saltwater spinning and fly fishing charters is evident, in his love of being out on the boat on Convict Lake or Crowley Lake. When Joe is not fishing or guiding on the bountiful creeks, streams, and rivers in the Eastern Sierra, “Matuka Joe” likely has the boat anchored on a very productive corner of Crowley Lake. The P.A. Midge and P.A. Perch patterns envisioned and developed by Joe do land lots of very big trout throughout the region, each and every summer. “Matuka Joe” has spearheaded the world of video fly fishing and video spin & bait reports for the Eastern Sierra. They are really cool, extremely informative, and on this website. Joe really enjoys spending quality time fishing with his family: his lovely wife Julia and two sons Quinn and Logan. Youth development goes further than Joe’s family, as he is deeply and selflessly committed towards bringing young (and younger) anglers into the world of fishing. He heads up the Kids Fishing Festival in Mammoth Lake.

A few of us heard him speak at Pleasanton last winter and found him to be very knowledgeable with an abundance of solid information on flies, and techniques for the streams and lakes in that area. His talk will be of great help as we prepare for our annual outing to Bridgeport in later September. The meeting will be held at 7pm at J.R. Williams School at 2450 Meadow Lane, Stockton. Public invited. Contact: Marty Kjelson, 477-9618.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	WEDNESDAY EVENING TYING Contact: Joe Balderston 649-0291 or Jim Rich 477-6404
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
Wednesday September 8	John R. Williams School	Monthly Membership Meeting Marty Kjelson 477-9618 - John Keagy 369-5690
Wednesday September 15	Nature Center Oak Grove Park, Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Friday-Sunday September 17-19	2010 Bridgeport Eastern Sierra Outing	Earl Summers 957-6756
Friday-Sunday October 1-3	Placerville Sportsman's Expo Placerville Fairgrounds	2010 NCCFFF Festival of Fly Fishing
Wednesday October 13	John R. Williams School	2010 DFF Annual Pot Luck Marty Kjelson 477-9618 - John Keagy 369-5690
Saturday October 16	Lake Alpine	October Outing Earl Summers - 957-6756
Saturday November 6	Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta	The Delta for Stripers Earl Summers - 957-6756
Saturday November 20	Oak Grove Park, Stockton	2010 Stockton Parks and Recreation Trout Bout Charlie Reames - 369-6053
Saturday December 18	Rancho Seco	December Outing Bill Laughlin - 411-6644



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Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

“The best imitation you will ever find for a Caddis is made from a mammal that sheds water, is silky to the touch and a fast easy tie”. Can you guess it? Next issue I’ll give you the name and instructions. This great fly tying material can be found in antique stores, garage sales & estate sales, junk stores, & for only a few kroners. Running my hands through a soft fiber due to the intended use of the critter, it never occurred to me that gracing trout lips would be better than gracing the shoulders of an evening dress. Yes, it is a Mink & the fly is called the Mini Minx using stole & tails. This caddis imitation is one of the best I have found for several reasons. It’s simple to tie and only uses undercoat and outside fur, hook & thread. It’s the perfect fly when you are on the move & tying by the waters edge when the need arises. It’s a rather strange looking caddis when tied. Using a #14 dry fly hook (your choice) & brownish thread. Make a small dubbed body from the undercoat, wrap up to area just behind the eye leaving enough room to tie in a clump of tail hair stacked so points are equal then secure behind eye so the butts face the bend when folded back to form hackle. Dub area slightly between wing and extended points. Pull hair back to form “hair hackle”. Whip it, cement it, clip butt to extend just past the bend. If you need more specifics drop me a line @ vlr@qnet.com.

Weather Conditions—Another Eastern Sierra high-pressure system moved into the area mid-August with temperatures ranging from 48 to 55 in the am and 70 to 76 degrees during the day. There is very little snow at upper elevations except for the highest peaks. Air quality improved when most of the fires were contained and the night sky has been sensational from 10,000’. Windy conditions have prevailed for the last couple days and the weather is supposed to turn sour and then sweeten up the last few days of August. Some predictions are for a dusting at the uppermost elevations.

Lawsuit – For a current update on waters that have not been cleared for Southwestern Flycatcher habitat see DFG web-site for details. The invasive New Zealand Mud Snail remains a problem and it is imperative that fishers-of-the-fly help prevent the spread by NOT WADING.

Upper Owens—Flow has been consistent at 96cfs and the water is warm so look for cooler channels with undercuts. Try hoppers, caddis and midges for the best action, also prince nymphs #18, BH pheasant tails and #16 Copper Johns, #18 hairs ear and #20-22 Zebra midges.

Rock Creek Lake—Has been good, and fish are still taking black, or olive Matukas and large burgundy streamers but some caddis action late in the day. Mosquito Flats run-off finally tapered and the gluttonous mosquitoes are getting some great meals. Slower water will show results with ants and hoppers in gargantuan proportions. Black ants are about 3/8” long and Mack Lake still has that brown which is about 25 to 26” long. This fish will plague me until seasons’ end. Drat him anyway. He was caught and released once this summer.

Crowley Lake—Algae is just about gone except for what is trapped in the weed beds and this will continue as long as DWP continues to drop the lake level which is around 6 to 12 inches a day. Stripping streamers will definitely get you into fish using a Gray/black Optimidge #18 under a stimulator.

Mammoth Lakes Basin—Lake Mary & George have been the best probably because the water temperature is stable so try Tentwing Caddis #14, #16 Parachute Adams, Stimulators, Beetles #14, Prince nymphs #16 and pleasant tails 14-18.

Hot Creek—Water conditions are good and flow is 28cfs. Fish early and late on midges, caddis and hoppers. Constant afternoon breezes so be ready to adjust when conditions change. Parachute

Adams, Chernobyl ants #8-14, CDC Caddis or ostrich caddis emerger. #18-20 Zebra midges or tiger midge and #16-18 Flashy scuds in olive and dark olive. Try some big streamers like Doc’s in black.

San Joaquin—Water conditions are great for this time of year and fish are rising to dries and do it after the tram is closed at 5:30 p.m. Try Stimulators, Humpy’s, Little Yellow Sallies, hare’s ear, BH copper micro mayfly and golden stones. Streamers are spotty and mostly olive flashy buggers in shaded areas and long runs.

June Loop—Silver Lake was hitting some high notes this past month with the amount of trout they received. Streamers with a dropper, small midges, hare’s ear, and Zug Bugs did well. Probably anything will work that resembles trout food, rainbow Hornbergs, burgundy/black tail woolies, Twin Lake special in rust or black and loads of terrestrial imitations. June and gull both did well using the same methods, except June depth was about 8’ to 10’ lower due to the water temperature. It’s cool, but surface water is warming for a summer dip, if you brought your trunks.

Lundy Lake—Did well most of the month near the inlet using any top water fly, streamers with a blade in orange/grizzly # 10 or 12, also the yellow/brown Pistol Pete did well. Breezy most afternoons with the occasional flat water, but the inlet still held the number one spot for the best action.

Virginia Lakes—Season tickets for tubers using a nymph under a stimulator or large Caddis were cancelled due to no show. Olive flashy buggers with a black tail and a full sink as the water temp is still consistent down to about 10 feet and it is still getting grabs. Rust or olive Twin Lakes Special, and black gnats, Griffith Gnats, and Rickard’s AP emerger, Grey Hackle Yellow, Yellow Sallies WD40’s dark olive and Zug bugs. I’ve been using dries or emergers just under the surface, and doing about 12 to 15 fish in about 90 minutes before dark and the darker it gets the bigger the browns. Green Creek – Hasn’t been stocked this summer due to the logistics and constant abuse the stock trucks get if the road has not been graded. Will keep you updated if anything changes.

Bridgeport Rez – Water is clear and heating up like Georgia asphalt and a 2-fly rig will get you into some action. Black/Gray zebra’s, damselfly, and PT’s under an indicator will also do well. Stay toward the inlet channels (Buckeye and Robinson) for the coolest water as there is comfort in the feeding zone when fish are contented.

East Walker – Flow currently is at 273 cfs & the mosquitoes are dwindling. Try some dries up & down the “mile” and use humpy’s or stimulators, but it’s been slow on dries. Mainly everyone is using the 2 fly rigs with midges and small nymphs without the bushy dry. Pressure is somewhat lower than expected, but any day on the EW is worth haggling for “THE” spot. Generally look and see what’s hanging in the bushes or cruising at 6003 feet. Also try some damselfly in the weedy areas. Trust in your basic stream/river nuts and bolts and you’ll improve your chances i.e., where the best oxygen is during peak heat of the day, preparation, equipment to bring, flies suited for time of day & water temperature, etc. Water temp is hanging between 76 to 78 degrees but the fish are in great condition with the extra water. Please take extra time when releasing fish, this is a valuable resource.

West Walker – Water is at 76cfs and there’s a ton of flat water to fish using a one fly rig with ants, hoppers and dragonfly imitations. If no results, move and use a two-fly setup with any nymph as your trailer and a red humpy as your top fly.

Saddlebag Lake - Has seen some good action around the north inlet and the dam area using a lot of brightly colored streamers but the staple has been BH dark olive with a black tail.

See you on the water! CJ (10 8)

FLY FISHING LA PAZ, BCS

By Bruce Rollans



Sallye and I arrived in La Paz, capitol of Baja California Sur, on a Saturday looking forward to six days fly fishing ahead of us. Our driver for the entire week, Solomon, was at the airport waiting for us. The trip to our luxury hotel, the La Concha, took about 20 minutes along the ocean drive through the city's downtown.

The upside of our trip was some excellent seafood, weather far more pleasant than what Northern California was experiencing at the time, a great panga captain and very good fishing. The downside of our trip included some not so good seafood, one hour van rides to and from the panga and long boat rides to get live bait.

Most fishing days started at 5:30 a.m. with our ride to the boat. By the time we got bait it was 8:00a.m. We typically began fishing the shoreline for Jack Cravalles and Rooster Fish. While not targeted, we also caught Ladyfish, aka poor man's Tarpon, Green Jack, Trumpet Fish and the ever present

nuisance, Needlefish.

Jack Cravalles and Rooster fish are fast, strong fighting fish. Roosters are probably the most exciting fish to watch, outside of Dorado, when chasing live bait.

By mid-morning we were searching for Dorado, Sail Fish and Striped Marlin. We saw but one Sail and four Marlin. All of them were moving rapidly away from us, chasing bait.

We had better luck with Dorado. They were often hanging out in groups of 4/5 around the buoys used by shark fishermen. Once we hit the jackpot. In 90 minutes we had 46 Dorado to the boat. Many were as small as five pounds, but at least half were between 12 and 25 pounds.

Once we ran alongside a large school of Porpoise and used a 12 wt. to troll a fly. Sallye landed a 20 pound Yellowfin Tuna doing this.

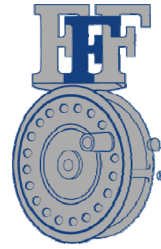
That same day we were stopped by a Mexican Army patrol boat. It had earlier been under tow by a much larger gun boat. On board were six Marines, three of them armed with automatic rifles! Sallye offered to hold the rifle of the Marine examining our captain's documents. The offer was turned down with a brief smile

I learned the hard way not to walk on the beach in the afternoon without shoes. The sand is very coarse and heats up enough to serve as a flat top short order cooks use.

Both our captain and driver told us we could easily catch Dorado and Yellowfin Tuna from the beach in October.



Northern California Council
Federation of Fly Fishers



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Appetizers before dinner, Bar B Qued Tri-Tip, Chicken, Beans, Salad, Rolls, Ice Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, Desert, Wine with dinner all for only \$30.00 .

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Featuring

“The Learning Center”

Teaching fly casting and fly tying

Certified Casting instructors will be on hand along with some of California's best fly tiers.



Images courtesy of
Dave Whitlock

-Bring the family-