



# Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

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## Next year we have some great activities to look forward to!



While I've been a member of the DFF for over 30 years, I can't remember a time I have been so excited about the club's future. We have some new volunteers that have brought the sizzle back to the club in the form of new activities, while at the same time, participating in some of the club's long standing traditions.

Let's take a look at what's going on. Dena Mason, in charge of the club's Education Chair, will, because of the club's generosity, add another six or seven Salmon in the Classroom projects in the Stockton and Lodi Unified SDs. That will make a total of over 40 tanks operating the program in these two districts. WOW!!!

Amy Terra has organized casting classes with Gary Turri, five to a class, for an inexpensive \$30 fee and has twelve members attending those classes in December alone.

Charlie Reames and Karen Keagy supervised the most recent Trout Bout and we had a number of new volunteers show up to help. A healthy sign for future events.

Our GM meeting in December will give our members a spotlight to cover their most memorable trips of the year and hopefully whet the appetites of those watching. And the raffle guy will try to offer a few Christmas stocking stuffers and a complete fly fishing outfit as prizes in the raffle

On New Year's Day the club will hold its umpteenth New Years outing on the Mokelumne at Van Assen Park, Some will fish, some will just hang out. New members, make sure you attend this event. It will become a habit.

In January we'll start an orientation for new fly fishers, a series of seminars on how to get started in fly fishing. All of them hands on and designed to put people on the water.

We'll also take a new approach to the introduction to fly tying with a series of flies, one a month, designed to build skills, with mentors available to coach new tiers along. The sessions will be held the fourth Wednesday of the month, January to May.

The club's installation dinner on January 19th offers all current members a time to celebrate the past, present and future of the club, with good fellowship, awards and a great raffle and auction.

Finally, we've worked with Sportsman's Warehouse and will hold the club's first Fly Fishing Day in a number of years. An event meant to spread the word on our club and its mission to introduce fly fishing to all those interested.

If you're not already involved, we can use the help. None of these things are automatic. We need warm bodies to make them all work, both veterans and new members regardless of current fly fishing skills.

## Calendar

December 2, King Island outing 8am.

December 8, Flyday night tying, House of Coffees, Lodi, 5pm

December 12, GM meeting, John RI Williams School

December 19, BOD meeting, Nature Cener, Oak Grove Park, 6;30pm

January 1, 2019 New Years at the Moke

Our military. Don't forget them, Christmas past, present and future.



# The December 12th general membership meeting features our own club members and a Christmas raffle.

Let the bragging begin! On Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> the Delta Fly Fishers will feature the fishing trips and adventures of club members from 2018. Our scheduled list of speakers are: Robert Fujimura, Bill Becket, Carlo Proto, Grady Lee, Amy Terra and Randy Baxter. This year's presentations will cover; An overview of our Delta Club's website,



*Mark DeLaBarre at the club's November outing on the delta. Photo by Jerry Neuburger*

How to earn a Heritage Trout Challenge Award, trophy steelheading in BC, trout fishing in Northern California, stripers and largemouth bass fishing, kayaking our water ways, just to name a few. This promises to be an outstanding evening of exciting stories and fish tales---some even true!

Remember, the December monthly meeting is our annual members' program night. This is your chance to shine! You need not fish an exotic location or catch giant fish to secure your place in history. Nor do you need to present professional quality photo's, a short talk about your past years adventure (good or bad) is all

that is needed.

We still have space for other members to participate and welcome you to join in! Please call Al Smatsky 368-9261.

In addition to the great list of speakers, the club will feature a Christmas raffle which will include a full, 5 weight outfit, rod, reel and line.

The meeting will begin at 7:00pm at John R. Williams School, 2450 Meadow, Stockton. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information go to [delta-flyfishers.com](http://delta-flyfishers.com).

## Just in time for Christmas, a 20% discount on any \$150 purchase at Sportsman's Warehouse

Print out the coupon below and take it in to our friends for a discount on your holi-

day purchases. You can print out the coupon multiple times but use only one per purchase.

Complete this form to receive updates from Sportsman's Warehouse.  
Or sign up at [sportsmanwarehouse.com](http://sportsmanwarehouse.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

# \$30 OFF

A PURCHASE OF \$150 OR MORE

STOCKTON - 10536 Trinity Parkway - (209) 851-7400

4 00010 31902 12

Not redeemable for cash, license or gift card. One certificate per customer per day. Must present certificate at time of sale. Cannot be combined with any other discount. Photo copies and other reproductions are not accepted. Valid in store only. Expires 12/31/2018

### DDF Officers



- President  
[Jerry Neuburger](#) 209-327-5993
- Vice President  
Amy Terra
- Secretary  
Karen Keagy
- Treasurer  
Jeanette Neuburger
- Directors  
Ron Forbes 209-368-5767  
Karen Keagy  
Larry Schmidt 209-482-8742  
Sam Thompson  
Gary Tecklenburg  
Thomas Mason  
Dena Mason  
Tim Costello  
Mike Nicholson

### Committees

- Beginner's Fly Tying  
Tim Costello
  - Bob McMillan Trout Bout (March)  
John and Karen Keagy
  - Catfish Derby (June)  
Chair needed
  - Conservation/Restore the Delta  
Ron Forbes 209-368-5767
  - Education  
Dena Mason
  - Fly Tying/Fishing Mentor Program  
Tim Costello
  - Membership  
Dena Mason
  - Monthly Raffles  
Jerry Neuburger
  - Outings  
Bill Beckett
  - Programs  
Al Smatsky 209-368-9261  
Bob Sousa 209-368-2683
  - Property/Historian  
John Keagy
  - Publicity  
[Steve VonBerg](#) 209-327-6161
  - Rod Building  
Bob Fujimura 209-339-0683
  - Trout Bout (November)  
Charlie Reames
  - Webmaster  
Amy Terra
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The Delta Fly Fishers Inc.  
PO Box 77862  
Stockton, CA 95207-7862

# Club's December 2nd outing to be at King Island Marina

The club's last outing of the year will take place on Sunday, December 2nd at King Island Marina. The marina is located off Eight Mile Road, west of I-5. The outing will start about 7:30 with a quick shore seminar for those that want some hints at catching fish. Launch at 8am.

Striped bass, the target of the day's fishing, are best fished for with a seven to nine weight rod, an assortment of streamer flies and an express sinking line. Fishing craft can be anything from a pontoon boat to a full sized skiff. Because of the tidal flows, float tubes are not recommended.

A quick look at the tides and weather shows a major incoming tide, starting at 8am and lasting until 2:30 with a rise of over three feet. The weather is predicted to be brisk but dry.

Those wishing to fish the outing but without something to float in can contact Bill Beckett, Headwaters Kayak in Lodi. Bill can rent you a craft and if he plans to

attend the outing, may even deliver it to the launch ramp for you.

The outing's fishmiester, Jerry Neuburger, has fished the area for a number of years and can offer some advise on gear, flies and presentations if asked. He picked up seven stripers and one large-mouth on the club's last delta outing in



***The King Island Marina launch ramp. Not the smoothest ramp in the delta. Chuck-holes galore. \$15 for trailered boats, \$7.50 for hand launched craft. Bring exact change. Photo by Jerry Neuburger***

November.

If you plan on attending this outing, please contact him, email [jneuburg@gmail.com](mailto:jneuburg@gmail.com) or phone 209-327-5993. If at least five people sign up, the club will furnish a lunch of fried chicken, potato salad, chips and drinks. Lunch about 1:30.

The King Island launch ramp is of poor quality but serviceable for smaller craft. It is located some distance from the marina store, a short distance from Eight Mile road after turning left onto the levee road to King's. The marina charges \$15 for trailered boats, and \$7.50 for kayaks, canoes, and pontoon boats. Bring exact change so you can use a furnished envelope rather than have to drive to the store to pay.

If enough people attend, the club will provide a lunch at around 1:30 with the service taking place at the picnic area in the rear of the store located at the bend, south of the launch ramp.

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## Is a 25 pound trout in your future? It could be if you attend the club's first annual Crosby's Lodge Weekend at Pyramid Lake, March 22-24, 2019

Pyramid Lake is an anomaly in an otherwise diminishing angling environment. The Paiute tribe that owns the lake has managed it for trophy trout for over 30 years and has recently introduced some of what they believe to be the lake's original species of Lahontan cutthroat trout. While the previous species grew to up to twenty pounds, these new fish are breaking that record on almost a weekly basis.

The lake is located about 40 miles north of Reno. The town of Sutcliffe is located on the west side of the lake and features [Crosby's Lodge](#), a hotel, restaurant and store almost entirely devoted to fishing for these monsters.

Fly fishers fish a variety of methods. Some wading, some fishing perched on ladders in about three feet of water and some from various personal floating craft.

The basic requirements to fish the lake are a decent cast, a 7 or eight weight rod, both sinking and floating lines, and a box of flies that includes woolly buggers, tadpoles or beetles, and a supply of #8-12

midges in various dress and colors.

This is social fishing with a line of ladders in the water at the most popular beaches. Most of the fish caught are in the two to four pound range but almost every day, fish above 12 pounds are landed.

The club has made reservations for ten at Crosby's, utilizing the trailers they have for rent. If we need more space, we can try to accommodate more if room allows up until the lodge has no more rooms.

### **This is the deal, all for \$90 dollars!**

- Two nights lodging
- Friday night spaghetti, French bread and salad dinner.
- Saturday cold breakfast, coffee
- Saturday lunch fixings, make your own
- Sunday cold breakfast, coffee.

Members can transfer any purchase but no refunds will be given. In the event of inclement weather, the club can cancel

with 24 hours notice. If the event is cancelled, refunds will be available.

Female members, we currently have two twin bed rooms booked. As long as we can put two females or a married couple in a room, we can make it work. If a problem arises we can try to make things work including exchanging trailer reservations.

You can book this trip NOW by either charging on your credit card or paying by check or cash. Remember, no refunds unless the event is canceled. You can transfer your reservation to another member.

**Follow this link to pay by credit card. [Charge my card for this outing.](#)**

Send checks to:

Jeanette Neuburger, Treasurer DFF  
5 North California Street  
Lodi, CA, 95240

Note on checks: Pyramid Outing

This outing is likely to sell out quickly. It would make a great Christmas present!

# Get ready for the club's annual installation dinner. New entrees, new directors and an great raffle. You can buy your dinner tickets NOW!

The 43rd edition of the club's annual installation of officers, awards ceremony, and years biggest raffle and silent auction will commence at 6pm, January 19th at the Elk's Lodge, 8900 Thornton Road, Stockton with an open bar, hors devours and three new entrees to choose from for the 7pm dinner.

Additional information on the evening's activities will follow in notices to the members and the January newsletter. However, to get things rolling, here's the new menu.

**Beef dinner**—Prime rib, pasta, roast vegetables, Signature spinach and Romaine Strawberry Basil Salad with homemade Raspberry Vinaigrette dinner rolls, dessert.

**Chicken dinner**—Stuffed Chicken Breast with Fresh Asparagus ( or Broccoli when Asparagus is not in Season) Topped with Cheese, pasta, roast vegetables, Signature spinach and Romaine Strawberry Basil

Salad with homemade Raspberry Vinaigrette dinner rolls, dessert.

**Vegetarian dinner**—Eggplant Parmesan, pasta, roast vegetables, Signature spinach and Romaine Strawberry Basil Salad with homemade Raspberry Vinaigrette dinner rolls, dessert.

All dinners are \$35. Sorry, no kid's menu.

If ordering on line, you may have to make multiple orders. For example, if you want two chicken dinners and one vegetarian, you will order the two chicken dinners by clicking and paying for that charge and then you will click on the single vegetarian dinner and make that purchase. You will receive on-line receipts for your purchase. Please print your receipts.

**Should circumstances require a cancellation, dinners may be cancelled for a full refund up until ten days before the event, January 9th. After that date, you may transfer the dinners to another person but because the number of din-**

**ners will have been ordered, no refunds are possible after January 9th.**

Click on the following links to order dinners. As stated above, you may have to make multiple orders, if the combination you desire is not listed.

[Prime Rib dinner \\$35](#)

[Two Prime Rib dinners \\$70](#)

[Stuffed Chicken Breast dinner \\$35](#)

[Two Chicken Breast dinners \\$70](#)

[Eggplant Parmesan dinner \\$35](#)

[Two Eggplant Parmesan dinners \\$70](#)

[Prime Rib and Chicken dinner \\$70](#)

[Prime Rib and Eggplant dinner \\$70](#)

[Chicken and Eggplant dinner \\$70](#)

You may also pay by check using the form below. Please do not send cash in the mail.

## Installation dinner order form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include email for receipt)

Number of Prime Rib dinners \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Chicken Breast dinners \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Eggplant Parmesan dinners \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of dinners \_\_\_\_\_

@ \$35 each

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the type and number of dinners on the memo line on your check.

Make checks payable to: Delta Fly Fishers

Mail to: Jeanette Neuburger, Treasurer DFF  
5 North California Street  
Lodi, CA 95240

Please do not send cash in the mail.

**You can also bring this form to the December General Membership meeting. Note; this is the only membership meeting within the time deadline required to submit dinner orders.**

I hope all DFF members attend this year's dinner. The officers and directors have worked hard to give you a year's worth of great activities during 2018 and are planning an even better year for 2019. Family and friends are welcome to attend as well. What a great way to introduce them to the club.

# New (and some old) Members Section

## Sign up for casting classes

Our very active V.P., Amy Terra, has arranged a series of casting classes with Gary Turri, an IFFF certified casting instructor and member of the Golden Gate Fly Casters.

The classes are three hours long and are

expected to cost \$45 per session. The classes will take place in San Ramon so those attending are planning to carpool to the east bay town.

She has already filled two sessions and is looking for new students for next year. Classes offered include beginners, intermediate and even switch and spey casting.

Students are expected to bring their own equipment. The dates the classes are to take place will depend on signups, with the goal of five to a maximum of six per class. To get in line, please e-mail Amy, at [deltaflywebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:deltaflywebmaster@gmail.com) or contact her at one of the club events. Once a date is set up, you will be invoiced for the amount of the class.

## Want to learn to tie flies, get involved in the spring series of IFFF Bronze Medal fly patterns

Instead of the Fly of the Month, the club will be offering a series of learning sessions on fly tying based on the International Federation of Fly Fishers Bronze Medal patterns.

Instead of an instructor, students will watch videos and live demonstrations on how to tie the various patterns and then be coached by the club's veteran fly tiers.

The first session in the series will take place on Wednesday, January 23, at 6:30pm, at the Oak Grove Park Nature Center. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged at each session to cover the cost of materials.

The additional sessions will fall on the fourth Wednesday of the following months unless a holiday interferes. The patterns to be tied are:

Woolly Bugger  
Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph  
Partridge & Orange Soft Hackle Wet Fly  
Grey Goose Emerger  
Pheasant Tail Variant Dry Fly

[More information can be found on the IFFF website.](#)

The club has learner tools for those just starting but does encourage participants to look into purchasing their own tying equipment so that they might practice and tie between sessions.

## Get a jumpstart on learning the art of fly fishing by signing up for this new spring series of seminars, classroom and water

The club has recently gained more than a few new members. And, as a fly fishing and conservation organization, it's our responsibility to get our new members (and a few of the old who have been dragging their feet) out on the water and fly fishing. Not just fishing, fishing successfully.

Right now, the plan is to hold five classes, an outline of each follows.

### **Class One Saturday, January 5th, 8-12**

A 4 hour classroom session—Rods, reels, lines. A chance to sample different rod weights, lines, reels. Putting a rod, reel and line together. Fishing knots. Students will bring their own equipment for evaluation and learn the basics of assembling rod, reel, line and backing.

### **Class Two, Saturday, January 12, 8-12**

Two hours classroom, two hours on the

water.

Classroom—The habits of the trout and other fish, entomology.

Two hours on the Mokelumne at Van Assen Park—studying the entomology of the Mokelumne, Reading the water. Good catch and release practice.

### **Class Three, Saturday, January 26, 8-12**

Four hours at Van Assen Park. Rigging for nymph fishing using an indicator. Selecting flies, presentations. Mending. How to fish streamers and wet flies.

### **Class Four, Saturday, February 9, 8-12**

Four hours at Van Assen Park. Fishing the dry fly. Building tapered leaders. Rigging the rod. Fly selection. Presentations. Dead drift. Mending.

### **Class Five, Saturday, February 23, 8-12**

Four hours at the Calaveras below Hogan Dam. Putting it all together. Students will be on their own. (with guidance if necessary) Reading the water and insect life. Selecting the method of fishing. Rigging the rod for the method of fishing selected. Using the learned skills in attempting to

catch fish.

The club hopes to provide a number of veteran fly fishers to assist those just starting their fly fishing careers with the objective of one coach to every two students with more veterans if possible.

The student is expected to be equipped with:

4 or 5 weight rod, reel and floating line.  
Waders, neoprene or dry.  
Wading boots  
Fishing vest  
Catch and release net  
Protective glasses  
Stream tools such as nippers, forceps, tie fast, split shot, tippet material. Indicators. And a selection of flies. These items will be covered during Class One.

**The class is limited to eight students. The cost for the entire five class sessions is \$25 to cover materials. Students are expected to make the commitment to attend all five sessions.**

Enrollment is on a first come basis. Those wishing to attend can sign up by contacting Jerry Neuburger, email preferred, [gneuburg@gmail.com](mailto:gneuburg@gmail.com) or phone 209-327-5993.

# The Delta Fly Fishers are hardy souls. Come prove it by showing up on New Year's Day at the Moke, our home water.

Tradition! As Teyve said, "Without our traditions, our lives would be as shaky as... as... as a fiddler on the roof!".

Through the years, one DFF outing has been preserved, rain or shine, warm or cold, flood or dry spell, the outing on the Mokelumne on New Year's day. Even the food served is part of the tradition, donuts and coffee or chocolate to start the day, tube steaks and chili for lunch.

The day starts with veteran members setting up the club pavilion and sign at the big parking lot at Van Assen Park, setting up the tables and cookware and firing up the coffee pot and hot water for chocolate. This all occurs before the sun comes up, if it comes up at all that day.

Other members show up with fishing gear, some planning to fish the park water on this opening day of fishing after the river's Chinook salmon closure, and others with craft capable of floating the river down to Clements.

Last year, more than one member was successful with Bob Fujimura catching a decent steelhead on his spey rod, the top

angler.

The club is generous during the day and has coffee and refreshments for other anglers as well as club members.

If you're new to the club, don't be shy, the event is for all members, new and old. Introduce yourself to the veterans and if you plan to fish and need help, just ask. If you're an older member who's never been, this year is a good year to start. If you're a regular, see you there!



*Veteran DFF members setting up for the 2017 opening day outing on the Moke. Photo by Jerry Neuburger*

**If you plan to fish, remember to purchase your 2019 fishing license, including the steelhead report card.**

# The Trout Bout was a success both for the anglers and the club. Thank you members, you rock!

The SJ Parks and Rec Trout Bout, with DFF as a co-sponsor, was another in a long line of successes, thanks to our club "heroes" who give so willingly of their time and energy to make the day successful for all concerned.

Special thanks go out to Charlie Reames, the chair of the event, John and Karen Keagy, without them, we'd be lost, and Dena Mason, the donut girl. A list of the other members putting in their time would fill most of the article. All deserve the officers and board's heartfelt thanks.

Income	\$492.00
Expenses	\$300.78
Profit	\$191.22



*Karen Keagy (center) and Dena Mason (right) at work at the food counter. Charlie Reames in the rear. Photo by Jerry Neuburger*

The December FlyDay Night fly tying session at the House of Coffee, Lockeford and Ham, Lodi, is on for the month of December, Friday, December 8, 5pm—7pm. Because of the holidays, there will be no Fly of the Month in December.

# Good! The Delta Stewardship Council does the right thing for the Delta Bad! President Trump's newly initiated Western water policies will destroy it.

If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trip would have ended long ago.

... Zane Grey

## THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL DOES THE RIGHT THING

Much to the delight of Restore the Delta and eight other anti-twin tunnels organizations, the Delta Stewardship Council's staff (DSC) has rejected the Dept. of Water Resources (DWR) attempt to gain the Council's approval of the California WaterFix (CWF). The DSC staff stated, "In light of claims made by 9 appellant groups, the Council staff recommends that the Council conclude that substantial evidence does not exist in the record to support the Department's (the Department of Water Resources - DWR) findings that the California WaterFix is consistent with the Delta Plan. Staff further recommends that the Council remand the matter to the Department for reconsideration, pursuant to Water code Section 85225.25."

Once again, this victory for the Delta demonstrates that well-organized, honest groups can prevail against ill-advised, self-serving governmental organizations and their allies. Restore the Delta's Policy

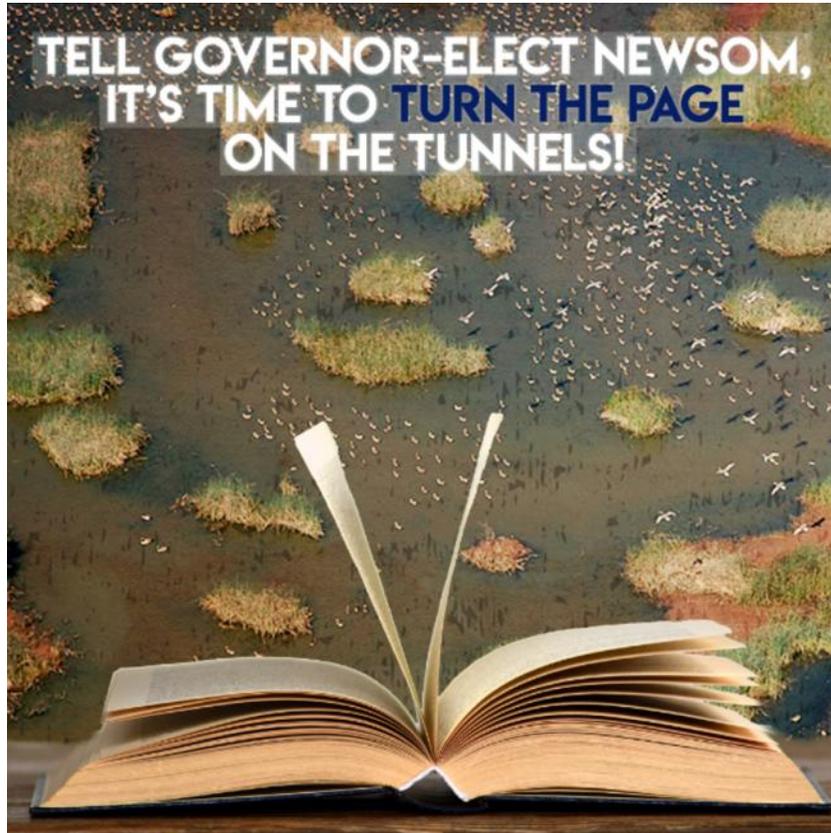
Advisor, Tim Stroshane, understated the DWR's problem when he commented, "DWR will have difficulty demonstrating that the tunnels project reduces Delta reliance. The tunnels are intended to at least maintain exports or increase them via amplified water transfers. Restore the Delta's evidence shows that is the intention of the State and other project proponents." It is not possible that the CWF proponents can justify the project and comply with the Delta Plan.

The staff of the DSC found four major reasons the CWF violates the Delta Plan. They are:

- 1) there was no evidence presented that the CWF would operate in such a way that would meet Delta water quality standards.
- 2) the DWR chose not to use the best science available.
- 3) the DWR did not present any evidence that would show those benefiting from the CWF would reduce the required reli-

plan is a product of the Delta Reform Act (DRA) of 2009. It was formed to enhance the state's newly formed coequal goals policy in the Delta. It was established to accomplish three agendas. First, the DP was to enhance the reliability of the state's water supply. Next is to protect and restore the Delta's ecosystem, and finally to enhance and protect the Delta's agriculture, recreational uses and culture. The DP requires that both the state and local governments actions are consistent with the DRA and the DP. The DP regulations are enforceable through the authority of the DRA.

Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, RTD's Executive Director, remarked, "We congratulate the DSC staff for doing the right thing and having the backbone to assert that the Ca WaterFix is inconsistent with the Delta Plan. Restore the Delta and its membership have shown up to countless meetings, hearings, and workshops to communicate this message for three years now." Barrigan-Parrilla hopes that Gov.-Elect Newsom will turn the page on outdated 20th century water policies that Gov. Brown actively embraced. She expressed optimism that Gov. Newsom will "pursue 21st century alternative



ance on the Delta.

- 4) the DRW again failed to demonstrate that, "The project is consistent with respect to compatibility with local land use plans.

In their initial statement, the staff of the DSC noted that the CWF "is not consistent with the Delta Plan." The Delta Plan (DP) was designed to be a long-term management plan designed to operate the Delta in a comprehensive manor. The

projects that actually benefit the public trust." At this point the governor-elect does not seem to be enthusiastic about the CWF project. Hopefully he is not.

## PRESIDENT TRUMP'S NEWLY INITIATED WESTERN WATER POLICIES WILL DESTROY THE DELTA

Last August, RTD asked the Delta Fly Fishers and the Striped Bass Association

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

to attend a Sacramento Bureau of Reclamation (BR) meeting. The meeting was an attempt to fast-forward President Trump's agenda to take more water from the Delta and send water to corporate agribusiness regardless of existing laws to the contrary. As you may recall, I detailed how the meeting was a complete sham. It was only 2 hours in length. The Federal Building is seven stories tall and about a city block in length. However, only one security person was present to admit us. Several BR personal made presentations and there was less than 20 minutes for over 50 people to address their concerns.

On the 21st of this month, the Dept. of Interior (DI) and the Dept. of Commerce (DC) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (M of A). Several months ago, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West. The M of A is to expedite the Presidential Memorandum. Both Secretary Ryan Zinke (DI) and Secretary Wilbur Ross (DC) have questionable ethical backgrounds as demonstrated by their signing this agreement. Unfortunately, once again, President Trump has yet to take the high road on either environmental or ethical issues.

Secretary Zinke commented that, "This Memorandum moves us one step closer to insuring Western water infrastructure can meet the demands of water users today and in the future." He also commented that he "looks forward in reducing the regulatory burdens of these critical infrastructures projects." Translation: President Trump will try to move forward with removing all protective restrictions in place to protect the environment under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA). Sec. Wilbur Ross (DC) added, "We look forward to working with the Dept. of Interior to remove the red tape preventing the American West from improving the infrastructure it needs to thrive and grow."

In their effort to move their agenda forward as rapidly as possible, they have designated Paul Souza, the Regional Director of the Southwest Region of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (SRUSFWS) to assist them. Souza will be the only person within the USFWS making decisions. With Souza's help they will



*The Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta, a thousand miles of waterway. Photo by NRDC*

not only have the ability to destroy the Delta via their manipulation of the California's Central Valley Project (CVP) but also destroy the Klamath Basin's salmon populations. The Bureau of Reclamation's past history in the Klamath Basin has been one of on-going loss of our fisheries. Souza will be the sole person within the USFWS to determine the procedures and regulations that can "burden" Trump's plan. Souza will also be responsible for developing strategies to circumvent, revise, or suspend any regulation procedure that "unduly burdens" the intention of the Presidential Memorandum. Since the DR controls the water for millions of acres of farmland, the potential environmental damage is catastrophic.

President Trump, Secretary Zinke and Ross and USFWS's Souza seem to have little, if any, concern of the devastating

our environment. And again, he shows that his primary concerns are for corporate profit regardless of the consequences. President Trump seems to lack the intellectual capacity to understand effects of his actions. Either that or he just does not care. Unfortunately, the ability to employ critical thinking is not this administration's long suit.

The Golden Gate Salmon Association's John McManus is furious with the PM saying, "This is Trump administration throwing the salmon and fishing communities under the bus." He points out Deputy Interior Director David Bernhardt is a lawyer and lobbied for the Westlands Water District. Bernhardt is trying to "seize and consolidate

control of northern California water needed for salmon for use of his former clients in the western San Joaquin valley to grow nut crops to export to China. He's moving to gag federal biologists that understand salmon protections while he seizes salmon water and diverts it to his former clients, the nut growers in the western Sa Joaquin desert."

President Trump's latest Presidential Memorandum, like many of his previous actions, will be undoubtedly be resolved by the judiciary.



effects their ill-advised manipulation of water will have on the entire West Coast. Once again, the POTUS is demonstrating that his lack of knowledge is destroying



## ***FEDERAL ACTION ALERT:***

### **Call Your Reps and Demand Due Process for the Delta & No Increased Delta Exports!**

If you've been with us since this spring or earlier, you might remember an action alert we issued to stop the **Calvert Rider**, and then the **Valadao Rider** as part of the Interior House Appropriations Bill for FY 2019 (H.R. 6147). To refresh your memory, the Calvert Rider would prevent further judicial review of the **Delta tunnels** project, while the Valadao Rider would prevent judicial review of other California water infrastructure, such as the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project.

Then in July, Congressman Jeff Denham (R-Turlock) [added](#) yet another amendment to the Appropriations bill, seeking to dismantle the State Water Board's recent recommended updates to the Bay Delta plan as a means to secure more water deliveries to the Central Valley. This matches up with President Trump's memorandum regarding water deliveries in the Western States.

As the Interior Appropriations Bill marches towards a Congressional vote, House Republicans are now pushing to resurrect the WIIN ACT, which would renew and potentially expand increased pumping in the Delta.

In order to prevent a government shutdown, Congress must vote on outstanding appropriations bills, including the one for Interior, or pass a temporary spending bill to serve until year-end. The votes for these destructive riders and the WIIN Act will need to be made by next Friday, December 7.

The time for us to act is now. Please take just five minutes each day to call your representatives and ask them to strip these riders from the Interior Appropriations Bill.

**Please contact your representatives to express your vehement disapproval of the California WaterFix project, and demand that the Calvert Rider, the Valadao Rider, and the Denham Rider be removed from the bill before it passes Congress. In addition, please express your disapproval of the WIIN Act.**

*"Hello , my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I live in \_\_\_\_\_, CA. I am calling to express my disapproval of The House Appropriations Committee's 2019 Spending Bill which contains three riders written by Congressman Ken Calvert, Congressman David Valadao, and Congressman Jeff Denham, respectively. These riders pose a direct threat to our Constitution by suggesting that the CA WaterFix project, the State Water Project and Central Valley Project would no longer be subject to judicial review under any Federal or State Law. In addition, Congressman Denham's rider and the WIIN ACT suggest that Delta water deliveries to the Central Valley would increase, thereby subverting the objectives of the Bay-Delta Plan. These riders are a complete violation of due process and state rights and I demand that they be removed from the bill. Thank you."*

#### **Senator Feinstein's D.C. Office:**

Phone: (202) 224-3841

Senator Feinstein can also be reached via email

#### **Senator Harris's D.C. Office:**

Phone (202) 224 – 3553

Senator Harris can also be reached via email

**You can find out who your local representatives are and how to contact them here:** <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

# I had a dream...(Not Les Mis!)

By Gil Parker

It has always been a little dream of mine to fish the upper Sac. I have passed by it so many times on trips to Seattle and Portland and to visit close friends in Ashland. This river has been calling me for most of my life.

My Dad was a rock nut when I was a teenager, and he owned the mineral rights to a Mercury mine located on the unimproved side of the Rogue River. We would spend almost every summer, doing assessment work on the mine, but mostly, camping and trout fishing.

Back in those days, I would make the long ride in the back of the pickup with my black lab, and as we passed the Sac on the old 99 and now Interstate 5, I would envision myself standing on the banks of the Sac in some obscure canyon trying to catch that elusive Brown trout.

The Sac has been calling me for a long time. Then a couple December's ago, at a DFF General Meeting, Mark Delabarre shared his trip of the upper Sac and Lake Siskiyou with a friend and my dream was rekindled by his success and his plan based mostly, around the idea, to just go and figure out the rest once you got there. Where to go, etc.

Last year, I tried it in early September, and couldn't even set up camp at Castle Crag state Campground, due to high temps and sweltering heat, with very little breeze. The campground was sandwiched between Int. 5 and the major rail line for Union Pacific Rail Line, and is a testament to man's advancement in automobile and railroad noise. The noise level was excessive, so last year, I said no to the dream and moved up to the McCloud River where cooler temps made everything better.

So fast forward to 2018, we gave it one more try, and because it was mid-October, the best month of the year for vacationing anywhere, we got her done. Our trip was Wednesday through Sunday. Wednesday and Sunday are kinda travel days, with set-up and tear down camp days.

We scheduled Thursday, for a day on



*A campsite at Castle Crag State Park. Ca.gov photo*

the lower Sac, with Scott Sugimoto, On the Ripple guide service, out of Redding. In the last week and a half, Scott took our club VP Amy and Pres. Jerry N. for a full day, Charlie R. twice, Bob F. once, and myself and my friend John Watson. You don't get cheated with Scott, he knows the river as well as anyone, his boat is equipped with an outboard motor, so making revisits to pockets on the river do not require long row backs.

Scott fired up a stove at lunch time and made pulled pork sandwiches on the river. Delicious! We met Scott at eight AM and got off the water twice but was pulling out for the second time at 7:30 PM, well after dark. He put us on fish all day and I personally landed a 20 to 22 inch steelhead and many others. But what is best about Scott is his passion for fly fishing, his river, the fish, and his inherent need to share his

love of the sport. He looks like he's 30, but he's actually 50 with one daughter in college and another a senior in high school. If you're thinking Of a float on the lower Sac, Scott is a great choice to spend the day with. You will not be disappointed. You haven't had enough fun until he has you fishing dry flies by moonlight. So not a bad beginning to my little dream trip.

Friday, was a seek and find water access to the river day. We started with the La Moine exit off I5 which was also the recent fire zone. This area is odd and strange to see, with scorched barren trees and without any foliage on the forest floor. Eerie and almost surreal black poles with red clay at their base. If it was a manzanita bush it was completely erased by the fire. Our fishing access still consisted of walking the rail line and finding a path to the water. Fishing wasn't very good. Not sure whether it

was us or an environment trying to recover from fire retardants on the ground.

Later in the day and north of the fire area, we used Soda Creek exit and found fish and were joined by Mike N. who proceeded to catch about eight fish in about an hour and a half. We were north of the fire zone and were surrounded by beauty. At one point, I looked back at my friend on the water, standing mid river, and Castle Crag peaks in the back ground. Fall colors were beginning to show themselves in reds and yellows. This trip was meeting my expectations.

Saturday, had a slow start. We camped at the Crag State Campgrounds, the same one I rejected a year earlier. The bad news was the noise level was still excessive but the good news was that

bathrooms were heated and had showers. All other campsites in the park were closed including the sites Mark used, called Riverview. Sites right on the river allowing for evening fishing from your camp site. In fact, all the camp sites in the area, including Sims Flat were closed as well.

It was downright chilly in the morning and we didn't see daylight until about 7AM. We bought some recommended flies from Ted Fay's fly shop and got directions on fishing the river running through Dunsmuir. We fished there in the AM with little success. Our only real success was back out of Soda Creek exit, so we decided to return there that afternoon.

This spot was from a parking lot with at least five no trespassing signs per Castle Crags Inc. Not real sure, what to make of the signs given that the lot had another four cars in it with families at the river's edge. We walked south and returned to a nice pool, a dogged leg right with the current hugging the far bank right of the turn. Mike N. showed us how to swing our emerger fly to the far side of the seam without an indicator. I caught a couple plants and my friend John caught a really nice 17 to 18 inch bow using a big orange salmon fly on the last cast of the night, during a giant stone fly convention.

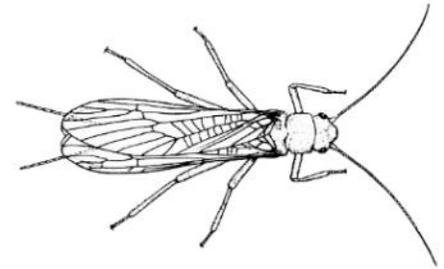
For well over an hour, these big flies poured like bats out of the trees to ova drop into the water, up and down the

river. This spectacular example of the river providing a stage for an environmental life cycle. In that hour before sunset, literally hundreds of flying frantically, 3 inch stone flies, flying seemingly without destination, save the females, who would water skip and land momentarily and then lift off fluttering, only to quickly re-land and deposit an egg or eggs. Then suddenly, with the arrival of the coolness of the coming darkness, they disappeared as if in a game of hide-and-seek. So magically, in the twilight period of time, they appear and then disappear, leaving no evidence they had been there. Unless you count the tiny eggs deposited in the darkness of the river. During it all, the fishing seems unaltered by their arrival as we caught several fish with emergers.

Stunningly, I will never get tired of connecting to nature, and watching the simple beauty of the earth replen-

ishing itself. Our sport of fly fishing has provided me this opportunity to see this and connect me with nature in way which brings a depth to my relationship with the environment.

I think the upper and lower Sac are still calling me. I close my eyes, and it's not hard to see a young boy standing on the edge of the Sac, in some obscure canyon, trying to catch that elusive brown trout.



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