



Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

Volume LI

Number 8

August 2026

Randall Baxter, Editor

Stockton, California

Calendar

August 5, Friday Night Casting, Hutchins St. Square. 125 S. Hutchins St, Lodi, 5-7pm (details pg 2)

August 12, Social Gathering this month. the Community Room of the Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Ave., Stockton. Meet 6:00—7:30pm (pg 2).

August 14, Friday night casting. Hutchins St. Square, Lodi. (pg 2).

August 19, Board of Directors Meeting, Oak Grove Nature Ctr, Eight Mile Rd., Stockton, 6:30 pm (pg 3).

August 26, **Cancelled** — Open fly tying Oak Grove Nature Ctr. 6:00 pm. (pg 3)

Club Announcements

- *There will be NO Open Fly Tying on August 26, (details pg 2)*
- *There is still room on the lower Sacramento River float fishing trip, October 10. See pg 12 for details.*
- *See details for our 3rd Annual Fly Tying Day on pg 13.*
- *It's also the start of another DFF membership year. Most of you have or will receive a reminder/facilitation email to pay club dues. Please respond promptly.*
- *Celebrating 50 years promoting fly fishing, conservation and comradery!*

Find DFF online at

<https://www.deltaflyfishers.com>

And on Face Book at

<https://www.facebook.com/Delta-Fly-Fishers-Inc-265097290192284/>

Next Delta Fly Fisher General Meeting

Our next meeting is a social gathering to start another year of club activities.

Date: Wednesday, August 12th

Location: the Community Room of the Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Ave., Stockton.

Time: 6:00—7:30 PM

Join us for some light snacks and conversation. Catch up with friends on fish stories and future fishing plans.

Presentation Information: None for August. (See pg 2)

Upcoming Events with Delta Fly Fishers

By Bob Fujimura

Free Casting Classes in SF Park – Saturday August 8 - CANCELLED: The GGACC clubhouse, parking lots, and ponds will be closed for the duration of the outside land's music festival from approximately July 27/28 through approximately August 12th.

August Social Gathering – Wednesday August 12: We are changing the location of our annual outdoor social to a new indoor venue. We will be meeting in the Community Room of the Margaret Troke Public Library, 502 W. Benjamin Holt Ave., Stockton. The entrance and parking lot are located on Inglewood Ave. There will be light snacks and refreshments and the usual raffles. This gathering will start at 6:00 pm and end at 7:30 pm. Contact Dena Mason for more information for this gathering. Hope to see you there.

Friday Night Casting Session – Friday August 14: Monthly casting instruction continues at Hutchins Street Square, 125 S Hutchins St, Lodi, CA from 5 to 7 pm. FCSD Bronze and Silver courses will be available, but we can work on anything you want! There will be loaner rods and eye protection available. All participants must have a 2026 liability waiver signed and on file. All instruction is free and open to the public. All Friday night casting nights are shifted an hour later (6-8) if the temperatures reach 100 degrees so please watch the thermometer throughout the summer. Contact Amy Terra for more information on this monthly session.

Stanislaus Fly Fishers Open Fly Tying Night – Tuesday August 18: Can't attend DFF's monthly tying session? SFF host Mike Hewitt invites any DFF members to join their monthly fly tying event in downtown Modesto starting about 6 pm at the Food Fix Butcher & Baker, 938 11th St Modesto, CA 95354. The location offers a light Cajun-flavored menu and a wide selection of beer on tap. The food and drinks are great and usually their a several SFF members who participate.

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday August 19: The executive officers and interested volunteers will resume their monthly meetings and discuss club business. However, we need more volunteers to continue to maintain our successful club. It is a good time to get familiar with the business side of the club and its most active members. All club members are welcome to join us at the Nature Center at Oak Grove Park, Eight Mile Road, Stockton starting at 6:30 pm. Contact Vice President Dena Mason at (209) 662-3079 for more information on this meeting and how to enter and

(continued on pg 3)



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(continued from pg 2)

exit the Park after hours.

Open Fly Tying Session – Wednesday August 26 CAN-

CELLED: We are taking a break in these monthly tying sessions until Wednesday October 28 which will be our last scheduled session until 2027. If you are looking for other opportunities to tie with other members, check out Stanislaus Fly Fishers Open Fly Tying Night in downtown Modesto in August 18 and September (date to be announced).

General Membership Meeting – Wednesday September 9:

Our guest speaker will be Jim Lintz who is recognized officer of the Amador Flyfishers and local expert on Tenkara fly fishing. Jim will discuss everything one needs to know to get started with this Japanese form of fly fishing: Tenkara rod actions, rod sections, setup, basic casting and traditional flies. More information on this meeting will be coming in August.

Friday Night Casting Session – Friday September 11: Monthly casting instruction continues at Hutchins Street Square, 125 S Hutchins St, Lodi, CA from 5 to 7 pm. FCSD Bronze and Silver courses will be available, but we can work on anything you want! There will be loaner rods and eye protection available. All participants must have a 2026 liability waiver signed and on file. All instruction is free and open to the public. All Friday night casting nights are shifted an hour later (6-8) if the temperatures reach 100 degrees so please watch the thermometer throughout the summer. Contact Amy Terra for more information on this monthly session.

Free Casting Classes in SF Park – Saturday September 12:

Free casting lessons at Golden Gate Casting Ponds at 1232 John F Kennedy Dr. San Francisco, CA 94122 resumes this month. Lessons run from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Rods available for loan for the lessons. Clinics available for all levels of casting led by the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club of San Francisco. Participants must preregister online via the GGACC website. A few of the DFF officers and members participate in this monthly GGACC event; contact Amy Terra at (209) 329-4801 for more information on this event.

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Fly Line Care and Maintenance Tips

By Bob Fujimura

Your fly line is one of the most important components of your fly fishing equipment – probably more important than your reel or fly rod in most cases. Keeping your lines in the best condition possible and extending the life span of your lines will save money and increase your casting and line performance. Proper care and maintenance of modern fly lines is simple and easy for most fly fishers and requires only a few minutes of time periodically.

#1 Routinely inspect and clean your lines: Lines will pick up dirt, algae, and other debris from normal use and its build up will cause friction through your rod's guides, resulting in shorter casting distances. Chemical contamination from insect (DEET) repellents, sunscreen, or harsh solvents such as fuel or strong cleaners can degrade the slick line coatings and add to line friction. Dirt and other contaminants will also reduce the floatation of floating lines.

Regular cleaning of your lines will help remove these line-fouling materials and chemical residues. Simplest method is to soak your fly line in warm water with some mild soap (not detergent, which will hurt more than help) after a fishing trip, rinse your line with clean water, and wipe down your line using a soft cloth or microfiber towel. I use a 5-gal utility bucket for this job and clean several lines at a time while watching television. During a long fishing trip, I use baby or flushable wipes to clean my lines in the field. Wiping down your lines will quickly show and remove any dirt residue. Inspect the lines for cracks or breaks and repair using flexible waterproof glues or resins or replace your line if necessary.

#2 Apply line conditioner or lubricant: After you clean and dry your lines, treat your lines with an appropriate fly line conditioner or lubricants. Each major line company sells its own fly line conditioner or lubricant and cleaning pads. I regularly use Mucilin Silicone Line Dressing – Green for my line lubricant. Just store this dressing in a leakproof container or plastic bag in a cool location. I use disposable makeup pads as line cleaning or lubricating pads. You can buy several years' worth of these pads at your local dollar store.

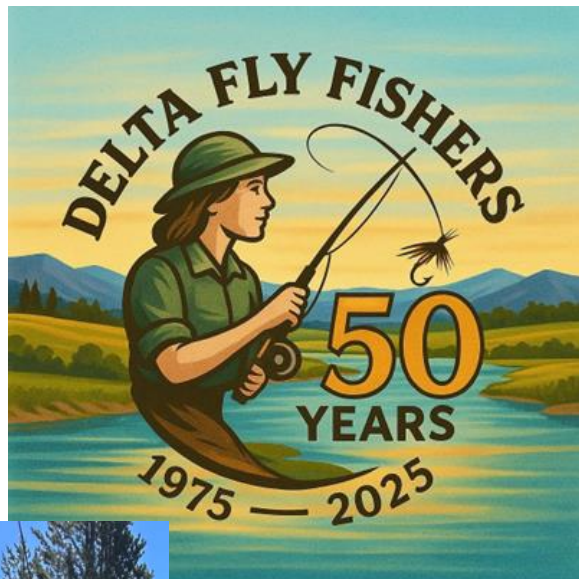
#3 Store your line properly between use: Avoid storing your lines in direct sunlight, hot places, in wet or damp conditions. To avoid reel induced line memory in off seasons, remove lines from your reels and store in looser coils in labelled plastic bags, in a cool and dark location. Line spooning tools (such as the Scientific Anglers Regulator Spool) are great for line storage and management. I no longer have the need to buy extra reels or reel spoons to store or transport extra fly lines. Using this tool with loop connections for the casting lines and running lines, you can quickly change lines on your reel and travel with several lines without the bulk or weight of extra reels or spoons. Carefully stretching your fly line before use can also minimize line coiling or kinking with some problematic sinking lines.



Yosemite Delivers for the Wulffies... again!

By Amy Terra

This is one of our most popular and growing outings. We have now reached, and somewhat exceeded the capacity of our air BNB with 7 attendees this year. Lucky for our accommodating hosts, we were able to all stay comfortably and enjoy the beautiful cabin that has become our go-to accommodation for this trip. Our first day we met at the Sage Mountain Coffee Shop for breakfast and made plans for the day. With a larger group, we split up between our favorite, Tuolumne Meadows and a new water for the Wulffies, the Glen Aulen area. It was a day of great fishing for everyone.



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(continued from pg 5)

Our second day's adventure is detailed in the article below - Pesca con Mosca—A Chance Encounter. This outing was the perfect balance of dry fly fishing, camaraderie, great food, and fun non-fishing activities. We are so lucky the Wulffies have gathered such a wonderfully diverse group of anglers who love to fish. It makes for great times!



Most of the crew sans photographer Marie.

Pesca con Mosca- A Chance Encounter

By Amy Terra

You wouldn't believe me if I told you this story. My only saving grace is that I have 6 witnesses. Fly fishing has brought me so many wonderful experiences. I have met some really cool people. I have had surreal experiences. I am so grateful for all of it. But I am going to tell you a story that happened this summer on a Wulffies women's outing that continues to blow my mind. So here goes. See if you believe what I can barely believe happened.

The Wulffies were on the Yosemite outing. This is our fifth or sixth year exploring the Yosemite area as a boisterous group of female anglers. We have found several places we must fish and have explored different waters. There are a few non-fishing activities we try to always do. The first is to eat at The Copperpot Café. Try it if you get a chance. We also always go to the Groveland Fly Shop,



The Wulffie Cheering Squad

Echo Adventures Cooperative. This summer, we stopped by the fly shop on our second morning. We were planning to go and fish Carlon Falls and the fact that it is outside of the park meant we had some buffer time to go to the shop. We arrived and started looking around. Several of us

noticed two men standing at the counter. They spoke beautiful English with an accent and told the employee that they really . They were trying to hire a guide but the shop's guides were all booked up. They decided to rent equipment as a last ditch effort to try fly fishing- or as they called it, "Pesca con Mosca". The employee

got all of their information and they asked where they should fish. She named a few places and they asked for directions. One of our Wulffies offered to mark some spots on the free Yosemite

map from the park. The gentlemen said thank you so much and then “What next?” Then a Wulffie offered to show them what flies were working yesterday. They filled a puck with great dry flies and the two gentlemen said thank you so much and then asked, “What next?”. A Wulffie then took them to the wall with leaders, tippet, floatant and a forceps tool. Again the gentlemen said thank you so much and then “What next?” Finally a Wulffie said, “What are you doing today?” and the two gentlemen said, “We hope we are fishing with all of you.” We said sure, introduced ourselves and gave them the location. They introduced themselves as Alejandro and Juan and we piled into our respective vehicles and headed to the Carlon Day Use Area.

We met in the parking lot and got everyone’s rods rigged up. Alejandro and Juan were not anticipating wading that day so they tried rolling up their pants but eventually just jumped in the water in their street clothes. A Wulffie demonstrated how to cast and present a dry fly upstream. A fish rose to the fly and our Wulffie landed a fish. We were communicating through pantomime, demonstration, English and Spanish and laughter. Alejandro took his turn first and after a little coaching from a Wulffie, he hooked and landed his first fish *pesca con mosca*. Juan stepped up and took his turn. He took to the cast and presentation quickly but we laughed when he kept not responding when fish after fish rose to his fly. We soon discovered that he was waiting for a tug as he often felt in other styles of fishing. Once we communicated that this was a visual cue to spark a response, he quickly hooked his first fish.

Once they had a sense of what we how to *pesca con mosca*, we headed up the trail towards the falls, dropping one of them off at



each fishing hole we encountered. We found out they were from Mexico and involved in grilling and restaurants there. As one of our Wulffies walked with Alejandro, he shared that Juan was being very humble describing himself as running a restaurant. When walking with Alejandro after dropping Juan off at a fishing spot, Alejandro shared that Juan owned and operated one of the most famous restaurants in Monterey, Mexico. He was asked to travel around the world to give cooking demonstrations and classes. Then when walking with Juan after dropping

Alejandro off at a hole, Juan shared that Alejandro was being very humble. Alejandro started and runs a huge grilling organization and was known as the “Grillmaster of Latin America”. Juan told us that Alejandro held grilling competitions with more than 40,000 people and traveled the world putting on classes and grilling demonstrations.

We fished until a late lunch. Our wonderful Wulffies shared our packed lunch with the guys. They offered to pay us what they



Some of our feast!

Continued on pg8

would have spent on a guide fee and we absolutely refused. They then offered to make us all dinner- and we absolutely accepted. What followed later that evening was an amazing evening of grilled foods, homemade salsas, amazing tacos, some delicious wine and lots of conversation and laughter.

It was an amazing day of people sharing their knowledge and skills freely. It was crazy to see pictures of our day shared on their large Instagram profiles. This whole chance encounter was truly surreal. The Wulfies hope the pictures give you some sense of the day. If you stop any of us that were there, we will gladly share the experience. It was an amazing day of *pesca de mosca*!



The entire Pesca con Mosca gang.

This Month's Fly Box

FLY TYING

Foam Beetle Dry Fly

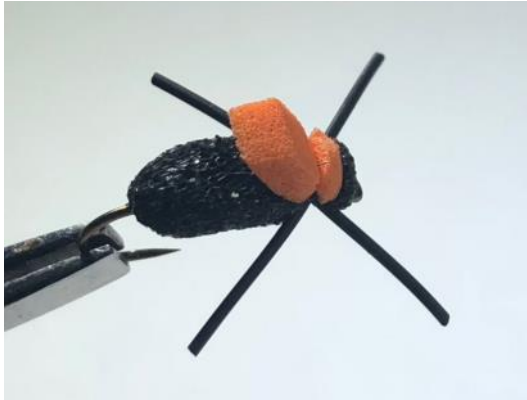


Photo by Flightmaster Fly

By Bob Fujimura

I was recently introduced to this pattern when I was teaching fly fishing and tying at a Scouting America camp near Willits, CA. This was the first time that most of my students fished or tied flies - so a very simple and effective fly was needed to target the camp's abundant bluegill. Foam ants were one of my first dry flies that I learned when I started fly tying.

After my volunteer experience and reviewing many recipes, I recommend the foam beetle dry fly as demonstrated by McFly Angler video found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaNUSlbiTRc>. This vid-

eo provides many good tips for the tyer who is new to working with foam and rubber legs. My field observations suggest that fishers should vary the material color and hook sizes to best target the bluegill or sunfish in your pond or lake that you fish. Although sunfish are not picky eaters, you will be glad to have a variety of flies, especially when fishing pressured water.

Working with Scouts and watching their joy catching large and eager bluegills has rekindled my interest in panfish fly fishing. There are plenty of nearby ponds or natural waters where abundant populations exist with little fishing pressure. Summer is also a great time for targeting these game fish. A good primer on how to fly fishing for this species can be found at this link: <https://www.outdoorlife.com/fishing/fly-fishing-bluegills-tips/>

Here is McFly anglers materials list:

Hook: Risen 9214 (size 14) – recommend smaller hook when targeting smaller sunfish

Thread: Veevus 6/0 (black)

Back: Fly Tying Eva Foam (black, 2mm)

Body: UV2 Diamond Brite Dubbing (olive brown or peacock)

Legs: MFC Centepede Legs (small, yellow/black)

Hot Spot: Razor

Foam (yellow)

Head Cement:

Solarez Ultra

Thin UV Resin

Mettler

Tasting Room: 7889 East Harney Lane
Lodi, CA 95240
Thurs to Mon 11am-5pm(209) 369-3045



Rx Fly Fishing! Advertising Rates

2 column inches each newsletter issue for the year for \$400 or in-kind goods and services, 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.

Included:

A digital subscription to the club's monthly newsletter.

Permission to post specials and other advertising on the [club's Face book page](#), 2 per month.

For additional information please e-mail randy.baxter23@gmail.com

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Casting Corner

By Amy Terra

Our summer casting includes our traditional local and bay area activities. We have our local Friday Night Casting. August 14th and September 11th are our next casting nights. We are still meeting at Hutchins Street Square near the marquee. The nights are open to the public. The only requirements are signing a waiver and wearing eye protection. We run from 5 to 7 unless the weather is over 100 degrees that day. Then we start an hour later and go from 6 to 8. We will have loaner rods, loaner glasses and cool water available. The night is open and unstructured. We work with newbies to advanced casters. Just please keep in mind that if it is busy, the instructors will be stretched thinner and individual instruction will be adjusted to try and meet everyone's needs. This is a great time to bring out a lawn chair and visit too. If you have any questions, just call Amy at 209-329-4801.

Golden Gate Casting and Angling Club conducts free lessons on the second Saturday of each month at Golden Gate Park. Lessons at all levels are available. Loaner rods are available. More info available [here](#). Due to the giant concert in the park, **there will be no lessons in August** but the fun will return in September.

Local lessons are always available if you want to work on anything in particular. Call the number above. I have resources for saltwater, striper and bass and general fly casting skills.

Cast better- fish better!

Contribute to the club's welfare

I was asked to put this box in the newsletter so that those club members that live at unreasonable travel times to the club's monthly meetings might have a way to contribute to the club's welfare. At their request, I've set up a group of alternative contribution amounts. Those who participate will receive a tax deductible receipt via email.

[\\$5](#) [\\$10](#) [\\$25](#) [\\$50](#)

Or send a check to:
DFF C/O Brenda McIntosh, DFF Treasurer
5 North California Street
Lodi, CA 95240

Cal State Charity # 131478

Convert an urban student into a little conservationist. Consider donating to the club's. tax deductible fund,

Salmon in the Classroom

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[\\$75](#), [\\$100](#),

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Currently over 72 classrooms and over 2,000 students in San Joaquin County participate in the program. It takes about \$350 to equip a classroom. 100% of your contribution goes to the program with no overheads.

You may also participate by mailing a check to:

Salmon in the Classroom
C/O Brenda McIntosh, DFF Treasurer
5 North California Street
Lodi, CA 95240

Make checks payable to DFF, Salmon in the Classroom. Please include your email address. You will receive a receipt online, when the check is received.

Cal State Charity # 131478

Wulffies Smallmouth Bass Trip 2026

By Amy Terra

This outing is a Wulffie favorite for a reason. Each year for the last 5 years Captain Bryce Tedford has taken 4 Wulffies out to fish for smallmouth on the Delta. Each year the available slots fill up fast! This is a chance to fish with the best guide on the Delta for a half day. We get to fish enough to catch fish with topwater flies. The visual feast is amazing! But the day is short enough we leave hungry but not exhausted. Lucky for us, the small town of Isleton has some great eateries. Looking forward to next year already!



Some of the day's catch...



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Bench Basics —

By Tim Costello

No content this month. Look for the next installment of **Bench Basics** in the September Newsletter.



Reminder to Sign Up for the Lower Sacramento River Float Trip

By Bob Fujimura

There is still some space available if you are interested in joining the group guided float trip on the Lower Sacramento River for Saturday October 10. Please sign up as soon as possible to ensure your spot during one of the best times to fish this popular and productive fishery. We have already seven people committed for this outing and this year our host Scott Sugimoto is considering limiting the number of attendees to ensure that we have sufficient guides to maintain the quality of float this year. To register for this event please contact Bob Fujimura by email at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com or call (209) 329-1692.

Participants will have a full day of guided indicator nymph fishing from a drift boat with an experienced guide per two anglers. Fishing gear, flies, shuttle service, and all you can eat group BBQ lunch are provided. The guide fee of \$300 per person (double occupancy per boat) does not include tip.



Our Featured Guest Tyer for 2026

By Bob Fujimura

Delta Fly Fishers are honored to announce that **Tim Au-Young will be our guest tyer for our annual Fly Tying Day clinic scheduled for December 5, 2026.** The Northern California fly tying community will be familiar with Tim's contribution to fly tying education. He has over 25 years of experience demonstrating and teaching fly tying and earned the title of **"Fly Tyer of the Year" by the Northern California Council of Federation of Fly Fishers in 2005.** Tim has been the Fly Tying Chair for Sacramento's California Fly Fishers Unlimited since 1999. Tim has been a regular featured tyer at the Sacramento International Sportsmen EXPO for many years and is responsible for recruiting all the tyers who demonstrate at the ISE panel tying demonstrations.

I have seen how he has educated, mentored, and promoted new tyers - and I am looking forward to Tim's presentation on tying soft-hackle flies at this year's Fly Tying Day event. Tim plans to bring his low key and interactive style of teaching using step by step instructions, handout materials, and live video projection to show how and why to tie his featured patterns. Details on the location, agenda, and how to register for this event can be found on the flyer below. This event is **open to all fly tyers** and is one of the most well received DFF events of year under the direction of host Amy Terra and her team.

2026 Annual Fly-Tying Day presented by Delta Fly Fishers



Attend **Tim Au-Young's** presentation of wet flies including the Carey Special and soft hackle/spider flies.

December 5, 2026, 9 AM until 2 PM

Fairfield Inn & Suites, 262 Rocky Lane in Lodi

Tim has 25 years of fly tying and teaching experience so this promises to be a fun and educational day.



\$35 per participant. Space is limited so sign up soon.

As we tie these flies, Tim will share fly tying tips and tricks. Plan on gaining valuable knowledge as you improve your tying skills throughout the day.

All fly-tying materials will be provided. Please bring your vise and basic fly-tying tools. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Sign up using the QR code, <https://link.waveapps.com/fq29ry-h782hb> or email deltaflywebmaster@gmail.com

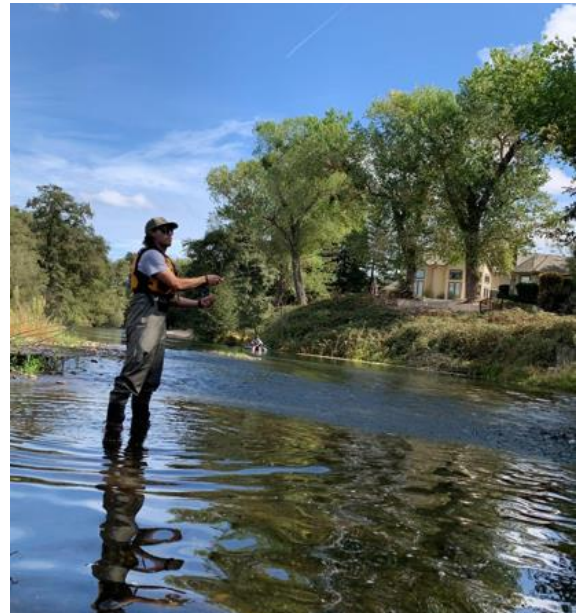
Thursdays on the Moke...Life gets busy

By Amy Terra

I remember when I used to be able to fish twice a week. I used to fish Wednesday nights and Sundays- almost without fail for several years. But work, parenthood, and a concentration on casting skills have resulted in fewer days on the water. My life had lost a little of its joy and peace because of this.

The recent passing of my beloved father has brought me to a point where I am trying to realign my life with more joy and less stress. This is the perfect formula for more fishing and less work! I am hoping as many of you as possible will join me in this effort to put in some on the water time by joining me on Thursday evenings at the EBMUD day use area below Comanche Dam. If you aren't familiar, google this address: 25800 N McIntire Rd, San Joaquin, CA 95227. We will meet in parking lot 1 at 6 pm and fish until dusk or hunger.

Let's spend some time fishing- meet you at the river!



Fishing for Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout then and now

By Randy Baxter

I first visited Yellowstone National Park with my family in the summer of 2002. I wanted to fish Yellowstone Lake, but was told that Lake Trout (illegally introduced) predation had reduced the Cutthroat Trout population in the lake to the point where fishing was unproductive. We disappointedly skipped fishing the Lake. We still found some receptive Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout in the Lamar River near Soda Butte Creek, where I finally got some to mistake my olive-tan bodied hopper patterns for Green Drakes emergers and we caught three nice Cutthroat. My daughter Amanda and I traded-off reeling them in and netting them (see right). Later in the day the Cutthroat actually did rise to hopper patterns.

Lake Trout suppression in Yellowstone Lake began a year after detection in 1994, but didn't have much affect until professional gill netters were hired in 2012. Over the subsequent decade, the professional gillnetters harvested about 300,000 Lake Trout per year; mostly large and mid-sized adults (the piscivorous life stages). After several years of gill netting the Cutthroat population in the lake responded strongly. Now, with continued Lake Trout gill netting, Cutthroat in the 22-24" range are once again common in the Lake.

Fast forward to July 2026, fishing a short walk off hwy 20 on the west shore of the north limb of Yellowstone Lake. We arrived on a calm shoreline about 9am. Within 5 minutes we observed large fish sipping bugs from the surface (likely Callibaetis spinners and later duns) and easy cast from shore. We fished an yellow-olive midge pupa suspended under a smallish golden stonefly chubby cast ahead of cruising/sipping fish if we saw them, or simply blind cast. All but one of my five hookups took the midge and I missed the one on the chubby. All the Cutthroat appeared fat and healthy; all in the 18-22" range. By noon, the fish moved off and we moved to the river and a salmonfly hatch (that's another story!). An excellent start to a fishing trip.



Lamar River, near Soda Butte Creek, August 2002



Yellowstone Lake, July 2026

CONSERVATION

By Ron Forbes, Conservation Chair

Only an extraordinary person would purposely risk being outsmarted by a creature often less than twelve inches long, over and over again.

Janna Bialek

Our Environment Has Changed: We have gone from a Global Warming to Climate Change to Impending Crisis

The earth's transition from global warming to climate change isn't a distant challenge to be faced by future generations. It's happening now. It's both overwhelming and unnerving. The planet we have known in past generations is gone. Our new environment is happening much more rapidly than we anticipated. We need to immediately deal with the reality of a changing climate or face what potentially will be catastrophic results. In the past we faced global warming. Today we face climate change.

The concept of global warming is not a new, radical concept. Over 200 years ago, the French physicist/mathematician, Joseph Fourier, came up with the concept that gases in our atmosphere trapped heat and warmed the earth more than it should be. He is given credit for discovering the "greenhouse effect". Later the Irishman John Tyndall was able to demonstrate that methane, water vapor, and carbon dioxide constantly absorbed heat and kept the earth warm enough to sustain life.

Almost a century later Swedish scientist, Svante Arrhenus, was the first to understand that increasing CO₂ levels have the ability to raise the temperature of our planet. He was among a group of forward-thinking scientists who proposed human activity, such as burning coal and other fuels for heat and industry, would create

more CO₂ and initiate global warming. His scientific discoveries were 130 years ago.

American scientist, Charles Keeling, was at the forefront of understanding the steadily increasing CO₂ levels on earth. He demonstrated the burning of fossil fuels and our rapidly increasing pollution was the cause of global warming. Keeling's successful experiments were completed within a ten year time frame between 1950-1960. Keeling's science was instrumental in confirming global warming. In the 1970's environmental groups and a multiplicity of scientists had verified his overwhelming evidence linking increasing pollution and our burning of fossil fuels generated detrimental effects on the earth's climate.

The history and path of global warming has been confirmed by eminent scientists. Wallace S. Broecker is considered the Godfather of Climate Science. During his lifetime of 87 years he was considered the world's greatest geoscientist. He devoted his life to radiocarbon and isotope dating. His scientific processes were the essential techniques used in understanding the earth's climate fluctuations since the Pleistocene period. He also was the person who discovered and understood the planet's Ocean Conveyor Belt (OCB). It was the most important discovery of the climate and oceanographic inter-relationship with our weather. Understanding the OCB is essential in understanding the relationship between our oceans and our planet's climates.



Wallace Broecker

Since we understand the critical nature of our rapidly changing climate, it is difficult to understand how much of our population avoids an immediate response as we face the possibility of experiencing rapidly escalating disasters from wildfires, floods, and droughts caused by our warming planet. Most thinking citizens now realize we may be facing major ongoing disasters that will become irreversible. Unfortunately, a segment of our population accepts current political rhetoric rather than scientific realities. Any

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thinking person understands climate change is a reality, not a "Chinese Hoax ". As I became more involved in a thought process that involved the scientific method, I soon realized political thinking was usually flawed. This seems especially true of our current political stances in America.

California's Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) is currently assessing the vulnerability of California's birds, mammals, vegetation, rare and endangered plants, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. The evaluation of the vulnerability of our plants and animals is being performed by the University of California Davis and began a decade ago. As far as the state's fish populations are concerned, 121 native species and 43 alien species will be evaluated for increasing or decreasing populations and variations in the species health.

The reality of critical climate change is not something just being thrust on us. The media has done its job for more than a decade informing us with current information about the earth's warming environment. Our population however, doesn't respond until a disaster occurs. That appears to be what is happening again.

My wake up call came on July 23, 2018. The Redding area was experiencing a major wildfire. Fires in California are not unusual so I paid little attention. This forest fire was unique. The fire quickly evolved into a major unknown type of fire-storm. I watched in amazement. In our college days, Delta Fly Fisher Gary Tecklemberg and I worked in fire suppression for the U.S. Forest Service in the Tahoe National Forest. We were on the Tahoe's traveling fire team and co-

foremen of northern California's first Helicopter squad. We had seen more than our fair share of California's fires.

I immediately called Gary. Neither of us could believe what we were watching. We stared in disbelief. What had just happened? When the fire statistics came out I became aware I was living in a new reality. In our summers with the Forest Service our largest fires were in the 60,000-70,000 thousand acre range. The Redding's Carr Fire had destroyed just over 229,000 acres. It was also the first time either Teck or I had ever seen a "fire tornado". Redding's fire tornado reached speeds of 143 mph. For the first time in my life I realized our wildfire realities had drastically changed.

There are an overwhelming number of scenarios to demonstrate what is happening with climate change. Since we are a fly fishing club I felt what's occurring with climate change can be well described using our salmonid and trout populations in northern California. If I were limited to one word to describe both trout and salmon, that word would be resilient. Both species have shown amazing resilience in adapting and surviving under stressful environments. Climate change will be their ultimate test.

In northern California the Chinook salmon, Coho (Silver) salmon, steelhead, and trout are facing an increasingly stressful environment. The increasingly warm environment now threatens their survival. Chinook salmon require water temperatures of from 50-60 degrees F to thrive. Coho salmon need from 48-58 degrees F. Steelhead must live in water temperatures of from 48-65 degrees F. Our northern California trout must have temperatures of from 45-65 degrees F. Along with the rest of our planet our northern California waters have become increasingly warm and threaten their survival.

Environmental and fishing groups, along with much of our population, have become much more active trying to address climate change issues for almost a decade. Early realities have shown addressing our fisheries issues will be extremely difficult. A recent article by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) emphasized some of the significant issues we face in the west coast fisheries.



NOAA notes that climate change has impacted our trout and salmon by changing their habitats drastically. The warming weather has greatly increased both flooding and drought. Flooding and drought have greatly altered spawning habitats. Because of lack of water due to droughts, salmon migration patterns have either been lost or greatly altered. The fish habitat we have known in the past has either been changed or just disappeared.



NOAA lists the "Impact of climate change on west coast fisheries":

1. Temperature increases - Rising water temperatures can lead to decreased oxygen levels affecting fish survival and growth.
2. Altered migration patterns - Change in the stream flow and temperature disrupt traditional salmon migration routes.
3. Habitat degradation - Increased flooding and drought conditions can damage spawning habitats that further threaten fish populations.
4. Ecosystem affects - the health of salmon and trout is vital for an entire aquatic ecosystem influencing other species.
5. Management strategies - Adaptive management is essential to mitigate these impacts and support other fish.

Writing a list of "what to do" is essential. But the list must be based on the reality of what nature has given us. Last year the journal "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" carried an article dealing with the devastation of the drought cycle of 2012-2016. The lead author of the article was Stephanie Carlson, Chair of Wildlife Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. Carlson reported "California is at the

southern end of a range of several species of salmon and trout, and because of a whole host of impacts, from colonization and engineering control of western rivers to climate change, these populations have been decimated. Because of the delayed rainfall, the time of elevated river flows was mismatched with the arrival of fish for

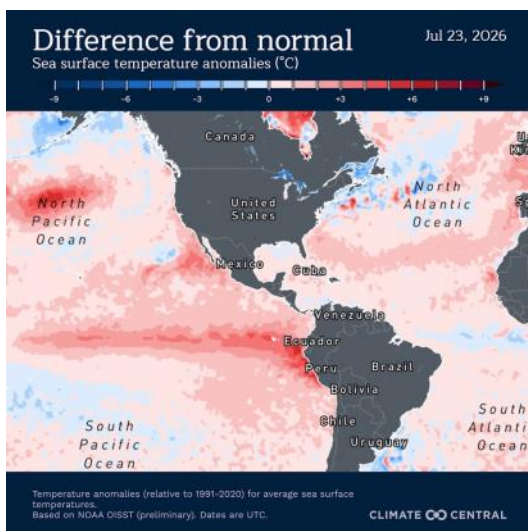
breeding and we saw different impacts for different species in different places. The most extreme cases were coho salmon that spawn in coastal rivers that have so-called intermittent estuaries, where a sandbar forms across the estuary in the dry season. In the three systems in Mendocino where the sandbar never opened for the whole year,

the coho salmon were lost from the entire watershed."

The consequential droughts of 2012-2016 were historic. The drought of 2013-2014 was particularly unique. Very little rain fell that year and the rain started falling extremely late in the season with the first rainfall starting the last week in January and stopping in early February. Many of the streams and rivers were very low and some of the river mouths were completely dry, preventing both salmon and steelhead from making their annual spawning runs. Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead suffered major impacts in 13 watersheds from Humboldt to Marin counties. Data collection now shows that steelhead no longer exist in a number of tributaries and the coho

salmon no longer exist in these waters.

I have used trout and salmon to demonstrate climate change. The potential loss of our fish population is disheartening, but it may be considered inconsequential compared with our melting ice sheets, warming and rising seas, and massively more intense wildfires, floods, droughts, and hurricanes. Climate change has intensely amplified the destruction. Recent articles have shown that



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oceans have now become much warmer which has the potential of massively changing weather patterns. Climate change will be a public health disaster.

Despite all the existing and potential disasters, scientists feel there is still time to reverse what is occurring. To accomplish this we will have to cut global emissions in half by 2030 and reach a "net-zero by 2050. Given the non-scientific mentality with our current political administration in Washington this will be an immensely difficult task. We are going to have to initiate new technological innovations, renewable energy, and major changes to reach a point where agriculture is sustainable.

At this point we have the knowledge and technology available to ultimately reverse climate change. We know how to achieve a climate change turnaround. We still can reverse what is happening on earth. It is absolutely imperative we do. The compelling question is... will our current Washington administration reverse their existing policies? The media evidence isn't positive. We should be extremely concerned. We are running out of time.