



Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

Volume L

Number 8

August 2025

Randall Baxter, Editor

Stockton, California

Calendar

August 13, Mettler Winery.
6:00 pm. (pg 1).

August 20, Board of Directors
Meeting, Oak Grove Nature
Ctr, Eight Mile Rd., Stockton,
**Temporary New Time: 7:00
pm** (pg 2).

August 22, Friday evening fly
casting at Hutchins Street
Square. Starting at either 5 or
6:00 pm depending on air
temperature; details pg 7)

August 27, Open fly tying and
casting, Oak Grove Nature
Ctr. 6:00 pm. (pg 2)

Club Announcements

- **General Meeting — Mettler Winery, See details below.**
- **August begins new club-membership year; time to pay dues (online or in person) and renew liability form.**
- **No newsletter was sent in July.**
- **Wulffies recent trips pgs 5-7**
- **Space available for the lower Sacramento River trip in October — details pg 8**

Delta Fly Fisher August General Meeting

Our first meeting after the July hiatus will be at the Mettler Winery. Join us and share good conversation and the opportunity to catch up on fishing stories. You can also get background and possibly sign-up for club events or trips.

Date: Wednesday, August 13th

Time: 6:00—8:00 PM

Location: Mettler Winery, 7889 E Harney Ln, Lodi

Find DFF
online at

<https://www.deltaflyfishers.com>

And on Face
Book at

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

Upcoming Events with Delta Fly Fishers

By Bob Fujimura

Beginners Fly Tying Classes – Wednesday August 6: CANCELLED due to lack of interest.

Free Casting Lessons in SF Park – Saturday August 9: Free casting lessons **CANCELLED** at Golden Gate Casting Ponds at 1232 John F Kennedy Dr. San Francisco, CA 94122 due to pond and road closures in the park.

Monthly General Membership Meeting – Wednesday August 13, 6-8;00 pm at the **Mettler Winery**, 7889 E Harney Ln, Lodi

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday August 20: The executive officers and interested volunteers will meet and discuss club business. It is a good way 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 7:00 pm. All DFF members are welcome to participate. Contact Vice President Dena Mason for more information on this meeting.

Friday Evening Casting Session – Friday August 22: Certified Casting Instructor Amy Terra and her team of assistants offer free fly casting lessons. The casting instruction continues at Hutchins Street Square, Lodi starting at 6:00 pm. FCSD Bronze and Silver courses will be available, but we can work on anything you want! Cold water will be available. Eye protection required. Liability waiver required. Gear to borrow available. Contact Amy Terra for more information.

Open Fly Tying and Casting Session – Wednesday August 27: Join other DFF members as they meet at Nature Center every fourth Wednesday evening for a no-host fly tying session. It will be a monthly opportunity to tie with your fellow members, sharing the latest fishing stories, and hang out with new and old friends. It is also an opportunity to practice your fly casting. This is a free event and is open to club members from 6:00 to 8:30 pm at the Oak Grove Regional Park's Nature Center, Eight-Mile Road, Stockton. Bob will be working on caddis dry fly patterns. Contact Bob Fujimura [at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:deltaflyfishers@gmail.com) for more information on this event.



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Celebrate California Fly Fisher's Relaunch Anniversary with a Special Offer for Fly Club Members

For more than three decades, California Fly Fisher has been the go-to publication for anglers who care about California's fisheries, wild trout, and the craft of fly fishing. In July 2024, the magazine underwent a beautiful redesign and relaunch—and it's better than ever in both print and digital formats. To mark their one-year relaunch anniversary, California Fly Fisher is offering club members an exclusive subscription discount—plus 10% off all merchandise

Special Anniversary Rates for Fly Club Members:

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Randy Baxter

Bob Fujimura

Charlie Reames

Norm Cassin

Sam Thompson

209-368-5767

209-482-8742

209-200-9739

Committees

Bob McMillan Trout Bout (March)
Chair needed

Casting
Amy Terra

Catfish Derby (June)
Chair needed

Conservation/Restore the Delta
Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Education/Outreach
Dena Mason

Monthly Raffles
Chair needed

NCCFFI Representative
Bob Fujimura

Outings
Bob Fujimura

Programs
Chair needed

Property/Historian
Charlie Reames

Refreshments
Mike Dempewolf

Rx Fly Fishing!
Randy Baxter

Trout Bout (November)
Charlie Reames

Webmaster
Amy Terra

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Stockton, CA 95207-7862



This Month's Fly Box

FLY TYING

John Barr's Graphic Caddis



Photo from Charlie's Fly Box website

A good introduction into tying this pattern can be found at Charlie Craven's Charlie's Fly Box YouTube site. His video is one of the better instructions on the Graphic Caddis on the Internet. It can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2OltNh0JC8>. It can be fished as a nymph suspended by an indicator, swung as a soft-hackle fly, or dropped from a dry caddis pattern.

Charlie Craven's recipe is listed below:

Hook: #14-18 Tiemco 2499 SP-BL

Thread: Uni-Thread 8/0 white and black

Tag: Silver holographic tinsel, small

Abdomen: Micro-tubing olive or Chartreuse

Ribbing: Krystal flash or flashabou pearl

Legs: Hungarian partridge fibers

Head: Black or natural gray ostrich herl

-Bob Fujimura

Summer is often a time when many fly fishers fish subsurface caddis emerger patterns. I used to fish commercially tied Sparkle Caddis Pupa patterns by Gary LaFontaine on the recommendation of my mentor Marty Kjelson. They are impressionistic patterns mimicking emerging caddis with a gas bubble. However, I tend to favor more literal patterns that use more artificial materials in my tying. Recently, I have been tying John Barr's Graphic that uses midge tubing to copy the segmented abdomen.

On the Riffle Guide Service

I am dedicated to giving you the most memorable day of fishing on the Sacramento River. My passion for fly fishing and the years of meticulously studying the river have helped me to put my clients in the best situation to catch

Scott Sugimoto

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scott@ontheriffle.com

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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.

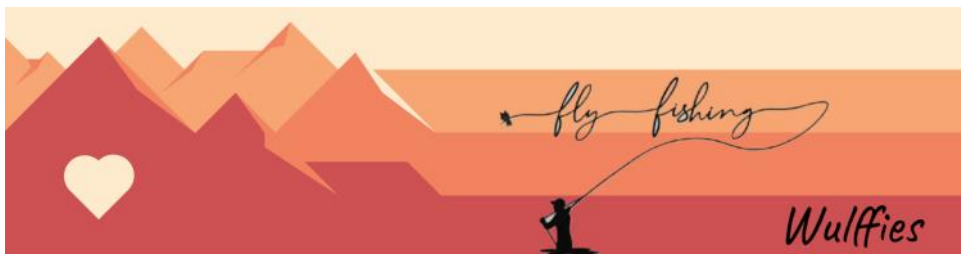
Additional column inches of ad space may be purchased at \$200 for the year, \$100 for six months, \$50 for a quarter year, \$20 per month.

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 phone or



Wulffies Upcoming Activities

By Amy Terra

The Wulffies have had a busy summer! We started with Mary Midget's fun outing to Lake Manzanita on June 1 and 2nd. I had driven past Lassen National Park many times on the way to fish somewhere else but had never stopped until Mary made arrangements for the Wulffies to spend the weekend there. I am so glad she did. Lassen is absolutely beautiful and the Lake is filled with fish. While it took me some time to land a fish because of a bent hook that I didn't notice for far too long- I think just about all of the participants landed fish and this is definitely going to be on our annual outing list



Miss Patty on the lake!

June 25th was our annual Rancho Seco outing hosted by Brenda and Nancy. Rancho Seco is usually reliable for blue gill and the occasional good size crappie but this year it provided a bunch of larger bass and crappie. We shifted to the boat

(continued on next page)

Local Water Orientation Clinics

With Greg Vinci

Author and guide

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ramp near the office to have access to a more comfortable lunch setting and this had us fishing the other side of the lake. The approach that worked best was an intermediate line with a small bugger. Lunch was awesome so thanks to Brenda and Nancy for being such great hosts!



July 8-10th we went to Yosemite. We stayed in upgraded digs- an amazing cabin with all the amenities including fresh eggs from the resident chickens. We fished in and out of the park as well as did some exploring for future outings and adventures. Fish were caught in Tuolumne Meadows, the Carlan area and even along the roadside. We drove to Hetch Hetchy and made sure to stop anywhere we wanted along the way. As always, we ate great including our annual stop to the Copper Pot Cafe in



Dena, Marie and Brenda; Amy is beyond the photo frame!

Greeley Hill- a must stop if you are ever in the area! We also popped into Echo Adventures which is our favorite local fly shop. I didn't take my camera at all so I don't have fish pictures but many beautiful wild rainbows, brookies and browns were caught on dry flies and with Marie's awesome tightlining tactics. We do have a pic of most of the gang at Olmstead Point! We already have reservations for next year!

(continued on next page)

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

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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

July 24th was one of our most popular outings each and every year-smallmouth fishing with Bryce. We had two sets of anglers enjoy half days with Bryce. As always, Bryce was a consummate host and everyone had a blast. This is one we do every year for a reason!

Looking forward to more amazing adventures with these amazing women. Dena is hosting an exploration of 88 in August. More information to come!



Mary H. and Joanne killing it on the Delta!



Casting Corner —

By Amy Terra

Summer casting sessions have been happening each month through the summer and we have been having a blast. I am so excited to see new and veteran anglers come out and tune up their skills. We have also drawn a few walkers and joggers to give fly casting a try just by being out in the public, doing what we love! It is contagious!

Join us for our next Friday night open casting on August 22nd. While the weather has been mild for us so far this summer, if the temperature is over 100 that day, we delay the start until 6. If the weather is under 100 that day, we start at 5 and end round 7. Friday night casting continues through October so come by September 26th or October 24th.

I have been reminded many times this summer how investing some time and effort into honing casting skills can translate into a better experience on the water. I have seen regulars at the Friday night casting out on the water delivering the fly accurately and with control. It is awesome to see! As always, every club member is eligible for a free ½ hour tune up. Call me at 209-329-4801 to schedule your time. Let's get you casting better and fishing better!

Why drift boat fish the Lower Sacramento River?

By Bob Fujimura

Especially for new fly fishers, fly fishing large rivers can be frustrating. The tailwater fishery below Keswick Dam has many great places you can get in and wade to access this blue ribbon tail water. Having said that, the absolute best method to fish the lower Sac is from a drift boat. Aside from being able to access all the water, you can fish the long runs on a dead, perfect drift which is deadly on these legendary wild rainbows. And professional guides are the best oarsman for this water. They know every nook and cranny of the river, what insects are and will be hatching, and the setups and methods that will get you onto the fish of a lifetime.

The Lower Sacramento River has been consistently good trout fishery for resident rainbow trout especially in the fall. Using experienced guides, fly fishers who float this controlled tailwater have good opportunities to hook and land wild resident rainbow up to +20" regardless of one's experience level.

DFF will again host a group float trip with experienced guides led by Scott Sugimoto on Saturday

October 11. This is a full-day all-inclusive fishing trip with a group BBQ lunch included. October is one of the most desirable fishing periods and appropriate for new or experienced fly fishers. Cost is \$300 per person (based on double boat occupancy; includes shuttle service, fly fishing gear, lunch, and guide tip). A personal check can be sent to DFF Treasurer, C/O Brenda McIntosh, PO Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207-7862. Contact Brenda at email dfftreasurer@yahoo.com if you prefer to pay your fee by credit card. A signed 2025-2026 DFF liability waiver is also required for registration. If you are interested in attending, **please register and pay your guide fee by Sept 15.**

Prior to this event, host Bob Fujimura will provide detailed outing information, fishing report updates, suggest local lodging, and will offer pre- and post-event dining out options for interested participants. For more information, contact Scott Sugimoto at scott@ontheriffle.com or Bob Fujimura at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com for more information on this event.



CONSERVATION

By Ron Forbes, Conservation Chair

Grant me the serenity to accept the size of the fish I catch, the courage not to lie about it, and the wisdom to know none of my fishing buddies would believe me anyway .

— Author unknown

CALIFORNIA'S POLITICS ARE IN A STATE OF CONFUSION AND CHAOS AND IT DOESN'T BODE WELL FOR EITHER OUR ENVIRONMENT OR OUR FISHERIES.

Since becoming Delta Fly Fishers Conservation Chair over two decades ago I have watched our state's attitude regarding the environment become increasingly positive. There have been, of course, major conflicts within the state on a wide variety of issues. However, California had evolved to have what now has become the most environmentally positive state in the union. Unfortunately, with the change in federal administrations we find ourselves once again a state of uncertainty. Recently California's legislature has radically changed its pro-environmental protections. The political groups we have long assumed would protect our environmental and fisheries interests are now unreliable.

Within the last month both the state Republican and Democratic parties have voted to remove well entrenched environmental protections and put California on a downward path toward poorer public health, a deteriorating environment, and degradation of our fisheries.

Gov. Gavin Newsom is terming out and it seems obvious that his current goal is to become President of the United States. He is attempting to change his current image to be seen not as a pro environmental advocate but a governor who supports building high-tech manufacturing plants for industry, and allows them to do so without

protective environmental requirements. His newly adopted viewpoint has put us on a path to destroy all our environmentally protective safeguards.

Our state's prime environmental law is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This act was signed into law 55 years ago by then-governor Ronald Regan. It was initiated to allow public agencies to make scientifically valid, well informed decisions regarding actions that would improve public health and protect our environment. Its key provision was to provide citizens with legal methods that would allow the public to hold the state accountable for its actions.

In CEQA's 55 years of existence much has changed within California. These changes necessitated new and different approaches to problems. Evolving techniques, newer and better scientific information, and changing environments required changes in a new reality. That is a reasonable assumption. But as things have changed and lawmakers have not modified the CEQA to address our new realities. Instead, they use a technique better suited to obtain their goals. Their method to obtain what they want is to not use an antiquated CEQA, but to grant "exemptions" to the law.

Last month, both Republican and Democratic parties, under the guise of streaming construction and lowering costs, approved Gov. Newsom's budget. Newsom coerced both sides of the aisle in Sacramento saying if they did not vote for his budget with its exemptions to the CEQA he would not approve the state's \$321 billion budget. Time was of the essence to approve a new budget. Both Republicans and Democrats agreed on the highly flawed, anti-environment budget. The budget was passed and signed into law by Gov. Newsom.

Newsom's action exempts nine project-types from any environmental review according to Cal-Matters. They include:

.....(continued pg10)

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1) child care centers, 2) health clinics, 3) food banks, 4) farmworker housing, 5) broadband, 6) wildfire prevention, 7) water infrastructure, 8) public parks and trails, 9) and extremely important, 10) advanced manufacturing. Newsom's budget only allows a small number of document types that can be examined. It also limits a document examination unless it has impacts in well-defined areas.

For years corporations, business, and construction groups have claimed CEQA is nothing more than government abuse that can add years to a projects' construction. Taking exception to their point of view, supporters of CEQA emphasize that it *required* developers to prevent environmental impacts that are toxic to the environment and humans. Locally one is reminded of the millions of dollars the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) was required to spend to neutralize toxic heavy metals in the Mokelumne River when an Australian mining operation ignored CEQA requirements and then disappeared from the state leaving EBMUD to deal with its illegal issues.

California's Democratic party historically has been a supporter of environmental issues. Now unfortunately state Democrats, led by Senator Scott Wiener, overwhelmingly supported Newsom's roll back of California's environmental laws. According to Wiener, "This bill will, literally, help us get more housing, more childcare centers, more health centers, more food banks and bring clean advanced manufacturing to California. And to suggest that this kind of bill is bad for the environment or the worst environmental bill in decades or whatever they say, that's just over the top. Wiener's comments are naive at best. States such as Texas and Montana have attracted manufacturers because they do not require manufacturers to provide safety and toxic protection for their citizens or their environments. Now California is joining those states much to the detriment and well-being of their populations and their environments.

The new restrictions of environmental laws have

been met with intense opposition by more than 100 environment and community groups. Opposition to the proposed legislation was only allowed for 3 hours. The Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability's Asha Sharma angrily referred to the action as, "A back door, last minute deal that made the state budget dependent on gutting environmental review as a resource-intensive and polluting industrial project. This law would not harm California communities equally. This budget deal is an attack on lower income communities of color that consistently get cited for harmful industrial projects."

Vehemently, Samuel Appel, policy director of the United Auto Workers in the Western United States who represents 100,000 employees voiced strong opposition. "We're concerned not only about toxic work sites that our members will be working at and organizing in. We are organizing and working in these facilities every day - at Tesla, in semiconductor facilities and in lithium and the lithium extraction industry and in aerospace. This is a giveaway for corporations, and city and local control is not enough to protect us or our communities."

To illustrate California's current Legislature mentality, the Assembly voted 50 to 3 for the bill and the Senate voted 33 to 1 for the bill's passage. Many Legislators who spoke against the bill's passage opted not to vote.

FINALLY, ACCURATE FINANCIAL INFORMATION REGARDING GOV. NEWSOM'S DELTA WATER CONVEYANCE PROJECT (DCP)

Despite the passing of time and current inflation, Gov. Newsom's DCP cost has not changed since it was first proposed. How is that possible? It isn't. The California Water Impact Network (C-WIN), a well-regarded source of environmental information, has examined DCP's real cost. On July 14th, C-WIN testified before the State Water Board about Gov. Newsom's seriously flawed

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(Continued from page 10)

DCP cost.

Their testimony severely criticized the Dept. of Water Resources (DWR) cost estimates. Their report was prepared by EConorthwest, a major environmental economics research organization. Carol Krieger, C-WINS executive director, said the EConorthwest report proves current cost estimates of the DCP have been purposely underestimated. They estimate if the project is built it will cost anywhere from \$60 to over \$100 billion. They note that the Dept. of Water Resource (DWR) has falsely claimed the cost would be only \$20 billion. C-WINS Max Gomborg remarked, "Like the MAGA budget, the DCP represents a transfer of money from working Americans to powerful corporations and wealthy plutocrats. The DCP will basically exist to provide guaranteed revenues for Southern California water agencies and to maximize profits for almond and pistachio producers in Kern County, with most of the cost borne by southern California ratepayers and taxpayers. Their children and grandchildren will still be paying the interest and operating cost of this massive boondoggle decades from now."

The testimony EConorthwest presented showed the DCP is highly flawed. Some of the flaws noted are:

- . Not estimating the inevitable cost overruns and their affordability
- . Overestimation of urban water use and need.
- . Economic loss due to the loss of our salmon fishery.
- . Opportunity Cost. The project will prohibit needed projects such as recycled water, storm-water capture etc.
- . Failure to understand other state projects seriously
- . Underestimated costs: For example, the Orville spillway was to cost \$200 million. It cost \$1.1 billion. That is a 450% increase. Our high-speed rail system was to cost \$33 billion at completion. To date we have spent \$128 billion and the project is not near completion. Gomborg noted, "It's time to put this fever dream to

bed and the EConorthwest report proves why."

In my years as Delta Fly Fishers Conservation Chair I have never had to write a newsletter article as depressing as this month's article. In previous years, despite a multiplicity of anti-environmental and anti-fisheries issues, there has been an available pathway to protect both our environment and our fisheries. Now, because of Gov. Newsom's closed, backdoor dealings, we have lost those abilities. Even more depressing is the fact that both sides of the political aisle overwhelmingly adopted a non-supportive stance for both our fisheries and the environment.

There are over 100 organizations in California that are actively pro-environmentalist. From its beginning in 1976, the Delta Fly Fishers have had a history of protecting our fisheries and their environment. We need to concentrate even more effort to protect our fish. We need to encourage other fly-fishing clubs to do the same. If we don't, we will lose our fisheries. The Delta Fly Fishers must become even more proactive! Each of us has a responsibility to become involved.