



Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

Volume LI

Number 6

June 2026

Randall Baxter, Editor

Stockton, California

Calendar

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

June 6, catfish derby, Oak Grove Regional Park, Eight Mile Rd. Gates open about 6 am (pg 2)

June 10, Club BBQ. No General meeting this month. Meet at 5:00, dinner at 6:00 pm (pg 1).

June 16, Putah Creek clean-up. (see pg 16 for details)

June 17, Board of Directors Meeting, Oak Grove Nature Ctr, Eight Mile Rd., Stockton, 6:30 pm (pg 3).

June 24, Open fly tying Oak Grove Nature Ctr. 6:00 pm. (pg 3)

Club Announcements

- Friday Night Casting , June 5 (pgs 2 & 8)
- The next installment of Tim Costello's. An Introduction to Fly Tying: Hair (pg 10)
- Volunteer opportunities! (pgs 15-16)
- *Celebrating 50 years promoting fly fishing, conservation*

Delta Fly Fisher Annual BBQ

The club has ordered the tri-tip and chicken. Chef Bob Souza and a crew of volunteers (?) are getting ready to cook them. Attempting to balance the side dishes, we've split the food types across club members based on the first letter of your last name (see list below). **Attendees will need to pay the \$6 fee to enter the park.**

Date: Wednesday, June 10th

Time: meet at 5 PM, dinner at 6:00 PM.

Location: Oak Grove Park, Poplar Pavilion (same as last year), on the left on the way to the Boat House Pavilion.

Pot Luck Info — 1st letter last name, dish type:

A through H, cold or hot side dishes

I through O, desserts

P through Z, salads

(Assignments above are recommendations; feel free to bring something different).

IMPORTANT — Bring your own plates, flatware, napkins, table clothes, bibs, and libations other than soft drinks, and anything else you need for a picnic.

Members are invited to bring their rods and do some casting practice beforehand on the open lawn or water nearby. Following the dinner and a short business meeting, the barbecue raffle will be held.

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



Friday Night Casting Session – Friday June 5: Monthly casting instruction resumes 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.

Catfish Derby – Saturday June 6: Come out and assist DFF role to help the San Joaquin Park & Rec run the contest registration and weigh-in of trophy catfish and provide food and drinks to families who fish at the annual event. Prizes will be awarded in youth and adult categories. Kids aged 15 years and younger fish for catfish FREE at Oak Grove's 10-acre lake during the event. There is no registration fee, however, a \$5 fishing permit fee and valid CA. fishing license are required for those sixteen (16) years of age or over. A \$6 vehicle-parking fee will also apply. All State Fish and Game laws apply. Participants must supply their own fishing equipment and preregister before the end of the contest.

Annual DFF BBQ – Wednesday June 10: Come to the second most popular DFF social event of the year. Enjoy a nice outdoor meal with your fellow DFF members and their families. Open to DFF members only but it is easy to join. More details on this BBQ and Potluck in this issue of the newsletter or email announcements.

Manzanita Lake Outing – Friday June 12 – Sunday June 14: Amy Terra is hosting a Wufflies Plus outing. Lake Manzanita is a float tube or pontoon boat friendly lake full of gorgeous fish in one of the world's most beautiful settings. Amy has made campsite arrangements for the women's group, but all members are welcome to make their own camping or lodging arrangements and join the fishing. No charge other than the National Park entry fee. Contact Amy for more information and discuss group meal options.

Putah Creek Cleanup & Trail Maintenance Day - Saturday June 13 (see also pg 16-17): Volunteer to clean up and help maintain angler trails along Putah Creek. This is the second Northern California Council of the Fly Fishers International event to restore this important fly fishing water. Volunteers will meet Steady Eddy's Coffee House located at 5 E Main St Suite A in Winters at 7:30 AM on June 13th where people/groups will be assigned to one of the team leaders, assisted stream sections, and receive instructions/directions. Work should commence about 8 AM and finish by noon. Afterward, volunteers will meet at a local brew-

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(continued from pg 2)

ery and enjoy a free lunch. To sign up and for more information, go to the NCCFFI webpage at: https://www.nccffi.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=195494&item_id=2921365. DFF volunteers should contact Bob Fujimura at (209) 329-1892 to let him know if you are coming or to answer any questions about this event.

Free Casting Classes in SF Park – Saturday June 13: Attend free casting lessons at Golden Gate Casting Ponds at 1232 John F Kennedy Dr. San Francisco, CA 94122. 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.

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday June 17: The executive officers and interested volunteers will meet and discuss club business. We are fortunate that new members are joining our Executive Team and existing members are accepting new roles in 2026. However, we need more volunteers to make this year a successful one. 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 exit the Park after hours.

Rancho Seco Outing – Friday June 19: Amy Terra is hosting another Wufflies Plus outing. This location has been an annual outing destination. Rancho Seco is a small local lake that has bluegill, crappie and bass. Some years we catch bunches. Some years not so much. The Wufflies are planning to be there from 9 to lunch at noon. However, all members are welcome to come and fish. There are park entry, fishing, and boat launching fees and golden mussel check for all watercrafts. There is no gas motors allowed. Let Amy know if you are coming and if you have any questions: 209-329-4801

Open Fly Tying Session – Wednesday June 24: 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. This will be a free event and 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 Fujimura will be sharing another fly of the month pattern. There should be light enough to practice your fly casting if you rather do this activity. Email Bob Fujimura at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com for more information on this event and how to enter and exit the Park gates. Beginners should not hesitate to attend. Please contact Bob at least 48 hrs ahead of time if you need individual instruction or need to use of the club's loaner equipment.

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DFF Officers



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Amy Terra

Catfish Derby (June)
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Education/Outreach
Dena Mason

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Bob Fujimura

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Webmaster
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Any correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to:
The Delta Fly Fishers Inc.
PO Box 77862
Stockton, CA 95207-7862



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Women's Yosemite Outing – Wednesday

June 29 - Saturday July 1: This is the Wuffies most popular outing of the year. It appears the cabin is full but a waiting list started. However, if you can arrange your own lodging, all activities are available to unlimited participants. We will have a list of destinations in and out of the park for us to visit and fish over the three days. Let Amy Terra know if you want to be added to the waiting list or have your own lodging and want to join us in the activities. (209) 329- 4801.

Delta Smallmouth Bass Outing – Thursday

July 9: This will be awesome morning outing for Smallmouth Bass on the Delta near Isleton, CA with host guide Captain Bryce Tedford. The outing will be suitable for novices, but it will be challenging enough for more advanced fly fishermen. This outing is limited to four participants and is already filled but check out the second session later that month. The cost is \$100 per person for two and one- half hours of guided fishing. There will be two sessions: one for two people from 7 AM to 9:30 AM and a second session from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. The first group will need to be present at the launch location by 6:30 AM. The second group must be ready to board by 9:30 AM. Parking will cost \$10/car and must be paid in the exact amount in cash. The launch site is Vieira's Resort, 15476 State Highway 160 near Isleton. Capt. Bryce will provide all the fishing gear and flies needed. Meals are not included, but water and misc. drinks will be provided. Please contact Bill Brown for general outing information and to register via wrb339@icloud.com or 209-609-5584. Registration requires prepayment of guide fees, must possess a valid California Fishing License, and have a signed 2026 DFF Liability Waiver on file with the DFF Treasurer. All registrations must be completed by June 15th. This outing is open to all DFF members and their friends.

Women's Delta Smallmouth Bass Outing –

Friday July 10: This is another popular women's outing targeting Delta smallmouth bass outing with Bryce Tedford on Friday the 10th. This outing is limited to 4 anglers who will spend a half day fishing with the amazing Bryce. The cost is \$100 per angler. Fishing is great for anglers of all experience levels. Contact Amy at 209-329-4801 to sign up. This one fill quickly so don't delay!

Friday Night Casting Session – Friday July

10: Monthly casting instruction resumes at Hutchins Street Square, 125 S Hutchins St, Lodi, CA from 5 to 7 pm. FCSO 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.

Second Delta Smallmouth Bass Outing –

Thursday July 16: This is the second morning outing for Smallmouth Bass on the Delta with host guide Captain Bryce Tedford. This day is almost sold out but there is still one open spot. The cost is \$100 per person for two and one- half hours of guided fishing. See the description for the first session on July 9 for more information. Please contact Bill Brown to register via wrb339@icloud.com or 209-609-5584. Registration requires prepayment of guide fees, must possess a valid California Fishing License, and have a signed 2026 DFF Liability Waiver on file with the DFF Treasurer. All registrations must be completed by June 15th. This outing is open to all DFF members and their friends.

Open Fly Tying Session – Wednesday July

22: 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. This will be a free event and 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 Fujimura will be sharing another fly of the month pattern. There should be light enough to practice your fly casting if you rather do this activity. Email Bob Fujimura at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com for more information on this event and how to enter and exit the Park gates. Beginners should not hesitate to attend. Please contact Bob at least 48 hrs ahead of time if you need individual instruction or need to use of the club's loaner equipment.



Wulffies are ready to fish in 2026!

By Amy Terra

Wulffies news is pretty exciting this month. The Wulffies had a fantastic Fishmas gathering, making new connections with more women anglers. It amazes me every time we have a gathering to meet new amazing women who are curious about fly fishing or knowledgeable about fly fishing, and looking for other women to fish with. It is pretty magical. Let's let the magic continue!

Our group of women continually reaches out with fishing opportunities and gets out there and fishes. I love seeing the pictures of all the fish and hearing the stories of their adventures. I see the growth of skill but more importantly. I see the friendships and connections and the pure enjoyment of this beautiful sport. I am humbled to be a part of this amazing group.

Look for more connections as summer fishing gets going. Here are our established plans. These are supplemented by our popup activities. Nancy Baker is the point of contact for the email outreach and Mary Midget is the point of contact for the group chat. Text Amy at 209-329-4801 to be put into contact with either of these awesome women!

June

June is when we really get our fishing going.

June 12th-14th is our Lake Manzanita outing. Amy has a campsite in the national park. The limit on the site is 6 people including 2 cars and 3

tents. We have one tent spot and 2 people to reach capacity at our campsite. Lake Manzanita is a float tube or pontoon boat friendly lake full of gorgeous fish in one of the world's most beautiful settings. Let Amy know if you want to go. No charge other than the National Park entry fee. If we get enough people, we can arrange food plans together. 209-329-4801



June 19th is our annual Rancho Seco outing. Rancho Seco is a small local lake that has blue gill, crappie and bass. Some years we catch bunches. Some years not so much. We always have a fun lunch. This outing is from 9 to lunch at noon. There is a park entry fee (\$20 I think) and golden mussel check for all watercraft. There are no gas motors allowed. Questions? 209-329-4801

June 29th to July 1st is our Yosemite outing. It appears the cabin is full with a waiting list started. However, if you are able to arrange your own lodging, all activities are available to unlimited participants. We have traditionally assigned one meal to each person so you only have to cook once. I will be reaching out soon via email to participants to work out details but here is our general plan:

Monday, June 29th: We will meet at Mountain Sage Coffee around 7 am for a no host breakfast. We can then either head over to Eco Adventures that opens at 8 am or head to one of our fishing options- and there are many to choose from. I am (continued on pg 6)

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thinking we head into Tuolumne Meadows while we are fresh but we can all chat about that. We will fish for the day. We have the 3 bedroom cabin at Jordan Creek Ranch reserved. It is a 3 bedroom with 6 person capacity. We currently have 5 confirmed and one signed up but not confirmed and one on the waiting list. Each day we will head into local fishing areas either as a group or split into small groups. This is always a fun outing. Let Amy know if you want to be added to the waiting list or have your own lodging and want to join us in the activities. (209)329- 4801

July

Fishing with a Newbie

By Amy Terra

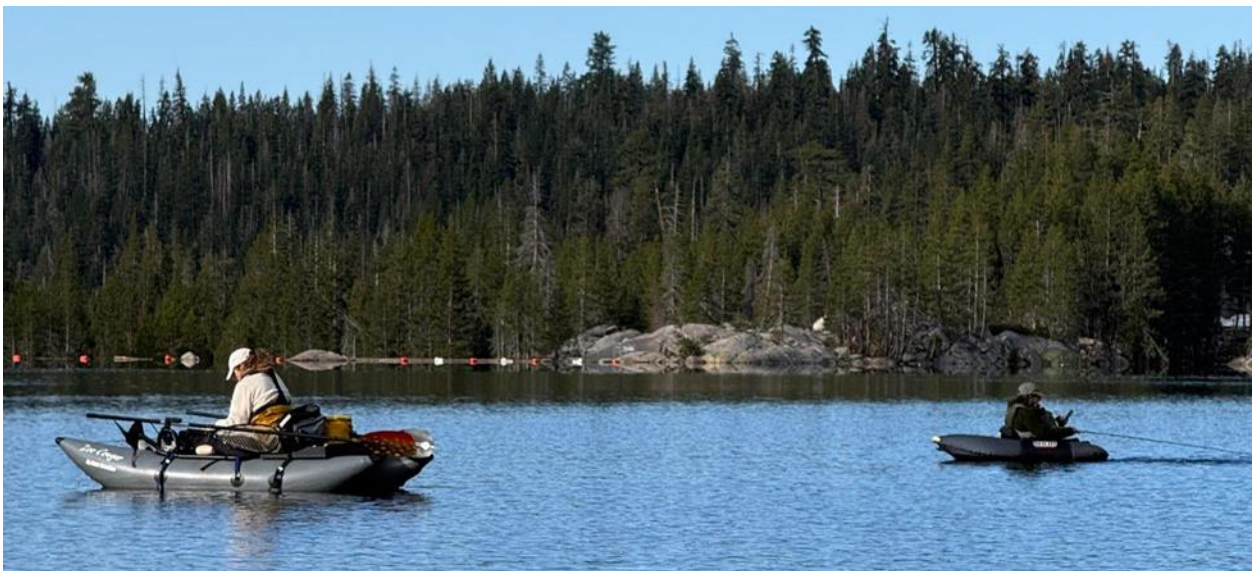
I had the good fortune of fishing with a newer angler. I had not been fishing for a while so I was feeling an odd nervousness. I was fishing a lake which I rarely do. I am a river girl. I love the hiking and wading of river fishing. I love the hunt. A lake is different. Lake fishing for me is still unfamiliar and I wasn't sure what I was doing. I wasn't sure if I would catch fish or have fun. And as these thoughts were running around my head, I said hello to an amazing woman who is a newer angler. Her infectious smile immediately brightened everyone's morning. I say the next sentences not as a judgement- rather to set the stage. This angler wasn't wearing waders. She had on rubber boots and what looked like sweats. She fished in a way that was different from what everyone says is the "right" way. She had slack in her line. She didn't strip the line often and would often kind of just float about. She would hang out and just enjoy the moment with her relaxed enjoyment getting interrupted with fish after fish hitting her fly. She was the first one on the water and the first to catch a fish and last one off the water. She had the most grabs and fish all day. She out-fished most of the others on the outing including my-

July will be our always popular smallmouth bass outing with Bryce Tedford on Friday the 10th. This outing is limited to 4 anglers who will spend a half day fishing with the amazing Bryce. The cost is \$100 per angler. Fishing is great for anglers of all experience levels. All spots are filled but let Amy know if you want to be on the wait list.

As always- make connections and get out and fish. I am looking forward to my summer break so I can join in on weekday fun. See you out there!

self. I think this is absolutely awesome.

Often when people start fly fishing they are almost paralyzed with apprehension. You can see it in how they hold their rod tightly or in their reluctance to actually go fishing. Or they may go fishing but hide off on their own where no one can see them. There is this intense concern about doing it "right" instead of "wrong". My morning on the lake with this fearless new angler reminded me that the only right way to catch a fish is with a fly in the water and the only wrong way is to care what others think. Don't get me wrong- she asked questions and listened to the answers. She wants to learn to fly fish in a traditional manner. In the meantime, she is just going to have a blast and catch fish because she is doing the most important thing- she is fishing and having fun. I highly recommend fishing with her or any newer angler. You are likely to catch their very contagious positive attitude and excitement. You will be humbled and remember the point of your fishing in the first place. It is a guaranteed good time!



This Month's Fly Box

FLY TYING

John Baiocchi's Damsel Nymph



Photo by Jon Baiocchi

By Bob Fujimura

June is the prime season for fishing the damselfly hatch for many Western waters. Jean and I were fortunate to be students of the late Jon Baiocchi, who taught us the joy of sight fishing during hatches on his home water of Lake Davis. In honor of the fifth year since Jon's passing, I am sharing his pattern with a few modifications to reflect my recollection of the nymph that we used when we fished with him.

Jon's original recipe is still available from his website: <https://jonbaiocchiflyfishingnews.blogspot.com/2011/04/tying-damsel-nymph.html>. His published pattern's

tail is elongated and similar to Jay Fair Wiggle Tail, another effective subsurface pattern during the Lake Davis damselfly hatch. Closed cell foam is used to keep his nymph near the surface mimicking the swimming behavior of nymphs migrating to emergent vegetation or shore to molt into adults.

This variation is smaller than most commercially tied nymphs, uses plastic tying eyes, and uses a shorter tail (about hook shank length) than Jon's suggested. As Jon recommended early June patterns used brown materials to match the coloration of nymphs. Jon taught us to watch for feeding trout with a predictable movement pattern, cast your nymph ahead of that fish, and immediately retrieve your nymph after it strikes the surface.

My recipe is given below:

Hook: Daiichi 1120 size 12

Thread: Uni-Thread 6/0 brown

Head/Throat: Wapsi thin fly foam, 2mm, brown

Body/Tail: Hareline strung marabou brown

Eyes: Wapsi Mono eyes olive or black small (plastic)

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randy.baxter23@gmail.com



Casting Corner — June 2026

By Amy Terra

We are well into our summer casting activities and the absolute highlight every month is our Friday night casting. We are shifting it around a bit because I will be off on fishing adventures off and on throughout my summer off. There are also a number of gatherings that involve opportunities to explore casting resources available to you.

Our Friday Night Casting session for June is on the 5th. Meet at Hutchins Street Square by the marquee. If the temperature is over 100 degrees, we shift everything an hour later. There are loaner rods available. This event is open to the public. The only requirement is eye protection and signing a liability waiver. All abilities are welcome. In July, our Friday night casting is on July 10th. Same rule applies regarding start time- 5-7 unless the temp is 100 degrees or more. Then we will shift it an hour later.

I have had the pleasure of working with several club members in individual lessons. What fun! I was also fortunate to present to our friends at the Amador club. I will be doing casting feedback clinics with Calaveras and Stanislaus this summer too. It is such fun to share all things fly casting with awesome people! Let me know if you want to get together and chat about your casting.

As always, Golden Gate Casting and Angling has free casting lessons on every second Saturday at Golden Gate Casting Ponds. [Check it out](#). It is free, fun and has opportunities for all casting levels.

Fly Fishers International's FlyFest 2026, presented by The Fly Shop, is coming to Redding, California, September 24–26, and excitement is building quickly across the fly fishing community. The Fest will feature all things fly fishing and great fly casting opportunities. Check out the details in the [NCCFFI Newsletter](#).

There is also a study club forming for peo-

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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:
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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

(continued from pg 8)

ple who are interested in working towards their Casting Instructor certification. If you are curious about the process, let me know.

I hope you are all out there fishing and having fun.

DRAAD — Humbling Inspiration

By Amy Terra

A few years ago I happened upon the most amazing digital tying magazine I have ever seen. The photography took my breath away only because it highlighted amazingly skilled fly tiers. For some reason I lost track of the magazine and hadn't seen an issue in over a year. Well, the other day I was looking for an email in my junk folder and I came upon the familiar name- DRAAD. My memory recalled the name and I quickly moved it to my inbox and clicked the link. There it was- the tying magazine I had drooled over with a fresh issue, now safe in my inbox. I scrolled through the amazing flies and photography. The magazine has a strong visual component with minimalist writing. The words provide a frame for the photos of flies. They are just enough to frame the flies without distracting from their visual beauty.



The flies are amazing. With the high definition photos, the detail is readily apparent and easy to appreciate. Because it is a digital magazine, there is no price influenced limitation in content. This issue was over 100 pages of purely beautiful fly tying.

As if this wasn't enough, there are numerous give-aways placed throughout the magazine. Beauty and skill plus fly fishing plus a chance to win something cool? Sign me up! Check it out for yourself:

<https://www.weareflyfishing.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/DRAADApril2026.pdf?>

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Bench Basics — Hair

By *Tim Costello*



As we get deeper into Spring and then Summer, a common fly we will use is an Elk Hair Caddis. So, what we are talking about this month is hair. Selecting the right hair for a fly is a hallmark of being an accomplished fly tyer. For our purposes, time and space available we are going to limit this to deer, elk and moose. There are other animal hides we can use such as antelope and caribou; however, they tend to be too soft and end up with broken tips as well, making them unusable for wings or collars (Craven, 141). Deer, Elk and Moose are used more extensively and are much more durable.

Now, before moving on, it is important to discuss the composition of hair and more importantly their tips. Elk, deer and moose hair are not like a drinking straw, meaning they are not hollow. The determining factor in the different hair textures results from the diameter of the hair and how thick the hair or hard it is. For example, a hair with a thick wall will not compress as much as a thin walled hair under thread tension. You may be asking why this is important? Thicker walled hair that does not compress much also will not flare as much either. When tying an elk hair caddis using a thin walled hair will produce a large flare when tying on the wing, whereas a thicker walled hair will not (Craven, 142).

Large diameter hairs allow for more air in the center space of the hair...thereby making it float better. Additionally, too much air in that space will also create a large flare of the hair. Let me explain. A thick hair (big outside diameter) with a thin wall (deer rump and body hair) is great for spinning deer hair flies, but it is terrible for creating a wing on an Elk Hair Caddis (Craven, 142). However, hair with a thick wall (low thread compression) and small inside diameter, like moose and elk hock will flare very little if at all. This is why moose is great for making stiff tailing dry flies. So, let's take a look at each one.

Types of Hair

Elk Hair —Elk Hair is probably the most usable

of all the animal hair used in fly tying. It is incredibly versatile and comes in a myriad of colors. It is important to note that there is a wide range texture and quality differences between bull, cow or yearling elk as well as body or hock hair. Let me try and explain the differences here.

Let's begin with bull elk hair. It tends to be lighter color and a bit longer than cow or yearling hair. Bull hair is hollow making it buoyant and the thickness of the hair wall near the tip prevents bull hair from flaring very much (Craven, 143). This makes it great for Elk Hair Caddis patterns. Near its tip this is a hard hair, but as you near the butt end it gains inside diameter making it flare well. Bull elk hair has a slightly smaller outside diameter than cow elk hair, but a thicker outside diameter than yearling elk.

Next up is cow elk hair which should be a staple in your fly tying materials. It is darker and shorter than bull hair, but it is also slightly bigger outside diameter as well. The color and texture of cow elk hair is similar to deer, but the wall of the elk is usually much thicker (Craven, 143). This is a great choice for Stimulators, Elk Hair Caddis and the Humpy to name a few. It produces very tough durable flies a shade darker than using yearling elk. The overall diameter is larger than both bull and yearling elk making it large for smaller flies. Importantly, cow elk hair flares more than bull elk.

Finally, the type you do not hear much about... yearling elk. It has a very soft texture and the shaft of hair has quickly tapered tips (Craven, 144). This characteristic makes yearling elk great for all wing applications. The best part is the thinner wall thickness and overall diameter makes this easy to compress on the hook, but still thick enough to keep the material from flaring when you apply tension with your thread. Additionally,

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it is longer than cow hair and almost as long as bull making it ideal for a wide range of fly sizes. This is a great choice for Stimulators and a Humpy. Also, the thinner wall and diameter makes it easy to compress thereby securing it completely to the hook shank with lots of thread tension. Finally, compressing it creates less bulk on the shank of the hook.

Elk and Moose Hock

Hock hair comes from the animals' legs and is a very fine hair with a small inside diameter with very sharp tips. This texture prevents the hair from flaring when tying and as such makes it great for tailing dry flies. Likewise, it is easy to use, durable and tends to be resistant to bending and ultimately breaking. Both of these hock hairs are spectacular and are great for tails on flies like the Humpy and the Royal Wulff.

Moose Body Hair

Moose body hair traditionally has been used in tailing applications for quite a while in patterns such as the Humpy or Royal Wulff. The body hair is much longer and larger in diameter than hock hair. The coloration of moose body hair tends to be mix of white and black OR white at the base and then turning black as it goes to the tip. The butt ends are thick and will spin like deer hair.

However, today moose body hair is commonly seen in steelhead dry flies because of these characteristics. Unfortunately, the mediocre tips and their large diameter causes it to flair more than you really want.

Deer Hair

Deer hair in general is long with variegated tips, thin walls and a large inside diameter. Now, deer body hair can come mule deer or whitetail and the color characteristics are very different between the two species (Craven, 146). Mule deer tends to be more of gray/brown color while whitetail is more of a tan or a cream color. Deer body hair is needed for a Comparadun wing or a Goddard Caddis body since you want the hair to spin. IF you are wanting the hair to spin you need to find deer hair with long butt ends, large diameters and thin walls (Craven, 146). In the end, what it comes down to is the purpose for what you will be using the deer hair.

In conclusion, if you can, always rely on your local shop and/or club members to help with materials selection. Additionally, there are some shops you can contact that are incredibly helpful as well. For example, Charlie's Fly Box is great, as are Fly Fish Food, The Fly Shop and the Ashland Fly Shop. I have called Charlie's on several occasions and they are incredibly helpful. Stay tuned as we start diving into actual fly patterns in the coming months.

Tying Journey Bronze Aspirations

By Amy Terra

Many people in our club are well aware of the bronze, silver and gold fly casting skill development levels. Fly Fishers International (FFI) has developed a progressive course of skill development to support casters in developing fishing casts and casting control. This helps anglers improve their skills, create community and empower clubs to support their membership's skill development in a systematic fashion.

What many don't know is that FFI has done this for fly tying too. There is a well established program with bronze, silver, gold and saltwater levels of tying skill. The participant ties 5 assigned

patterns in multiple numbers and 3 self selected patterns in triplicates. The flies are then sent to identified judges who evaluates the flies against a predetermined checklist. The evaluator provides feedback and determines if the tier achieved the skill level required for the award level. There is a fee requirement for each level submission.

A few of us are going to begin our FFI tying journey by attempting the bronze patterns. We will meet at least monthly, with the goal of tying one of the patterns each session. The sessions will be on weekends at Lodi Cyclery. If you are interested in joining our journey, give Amy a call at 209-329-4801 to be added to the text chat about days and times.

Here is a link to the FFI program: [Fly Tying Awards Program](#).

Leo's Legacy

By Amy Terra

We want to take a moment to celebrate the lives of those who have contributed to the 50 year history of Delta Fly Fishers and especially to those that have recently passed away. In an effort to honor the contributions of Leo, John and so many others, ***we are holding a Legacy Social at Tandem Bikes on June 17th from 4 pm to 6 pm.*** This is the location of Lodi Cyclery and the Fly Corner. We will have a fly tied by Leo Gutierrez free to the first 20 attendees and all attendees will receive a raffle ticket to win a piece of fish themed artwork from Leo's collection.

Tandem Bikes is located at 9 N. School Street and the event will be no host with food available onsite. Tandem bikes has coffee, tea, beer, wine and snack items as well as Defiant Bakery will be onsite with sandwiches and pizzas available.

This is our chance to reflect on 50 years of camaraderie in the name of fly fishing, and join together to honor those who put so much of their heart, energy and knowledge into the club. Take a moment to toast those who have served in the past and if you see someone who is currently serving

the club on the board or as an officer, it wouldn't hurt to buy them a drink! But in all seriousness, this club has, and has had amazing people. Let's get together to reflect with gratitude, and move forward with purpose.



One Fly Contest Report

By Bob Fujimura

On Saturday morning of May 9, fifteen DFF members gathered on the banks of White Pines Lake, near Arnold CA, to participate in the annual fishing event hosted by the Calaveras Fly Fishers. Their One Fly Contest has been a friendly competition between members of their clubs and our club for many years. The weather was ideal for the event – clear skies, relatively warm temperatures for early May in the Sierras, and modest winds. The lake was will stocked by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife – it received three weekly plantings of hatchery rainbow trout

prior to the contest. The fishing showed that there were many holdover trout eager to bite whatever fly the contestants used.

Delta Fly Fishers members did very well and almost everyone caught fish. Our club reclaimed the two contest awards. Greg Pettis won this year's title of 'Most Trout Caught' with about 36 trout landed and Dena Mason caught the 'Largest Fish' award with a 16" rainbow trout. Many congratulations to Greg and Dena for their accomplishments and to everyone who participated this year. Many thanks to our CFF hosts who held this fun event.

CONSERVATION

By Ron Forbes, Conservation Chair

Maybe your status as a fly fisherman isn't determined by how big a trout you can catch, but by how small a trout you can catch without being disappointed.

John Gierach

"The Times They Are a-Changin'"... And It's Time We Catch up

Bob Dylan wrote this song in 1963 about social and political changes in the 60's. In reality, times are constantly transforming our realities. I joined the Delta Fly fishers just before the turn of the century. Soon after joining I became involved in our conservation efforts. The club's mission statement notes how we promote and preserve the sport of fly fishing. Our code of ethics and conservation state that we are actively involved in habitat conservation to ensure our ecosystem and fisheries remain healthy. We have a long, active history of doing so. We should be proud of our past history.

But the times have changed and we need to adapt with them to stay current with new realities. What worked well for our fisheries over 20 years ago is not successful today. We can continue to be effective with our club's conservation efforts but as a group we need to agree on newer efforts that will make us more relevant. Today we continue to support organizations that were once the only options for successful protection of our fisheries, the Delta and a thriving environment. Three major organizations have been the club's environmental cornerstones. It's important that we maintain a strong relationship with these groups. However, we also need to form new alliances with groups that have current innovative perspectives.

In the early 2000's the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFF) was a force to be reckoned with. The council represents from 27 to 30 fly fishing clubs. Mark Rockwell was the clubs' VP of Conservation and had surrounded himself with very active fly fishers who were dedicated to preserving and enhancing the fisheries and their environment. Unfortunately, the NCCFF disbanded. Half a decade later they have reformed. From my latest information there are less than 10 directors and conservation efforts have been reduced to emails sent to member clubs.

Activist Bill Jennings formed the California Sport-fishing Protection Alliance (CSPA). Because of his overwhelming knowledge of the vast complexities of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Jennings was referred to as "Father of the Delta". Because of his extensive knowledge and litigation prowess, the CSPA has been the most successful group litigating against the U.S. Dept. of Interior within our court system.

In 2006, Restore the Delta (RTD) came into being. I remember the first meeting which was held at the University of the Pacific. About 35-40 people initially formed this group to stop the continuing degradation of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta's environment and its fisheries. Today over 40,000 people, five counties, fishery groups, and environmental organizations support RTD. They have come a long way and done well. It has become apparent that RTD's executive director's job was overwhelming and changes needed to be made. Today many of the responsibilities handled by their executive director alone have been assumed by different leadership groups.

For more than two and a half decades, I have watched changes occurring and issues evolving. The groups that supported the environment, the Delta, and our fisheries have come a long way. We have done much of which we can be proud. Nothing remains constant. As committee chair of conservation it is my responsibility to initiate progressive conservation changes. However, it is beyond the scope of one person to initiate the many progressive changes

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(continued from pg 17) needed. Our entire club's membership needs to become involved in making suggestions that will continue to make us an effective contributor within the fly fishing and environmental communities.

Under Dena Mason's outstanding leadership, our participation in Salmon in the Classroom program (SC) has been a visible asset for the club in both Stockton and Lodi. SC also reflects a very positive image for the Delta Fly Fishers (DFF). Because of Dena's efforts hundreds of kids are now well aware of the salmon life cycle, salmon survival, and the importance of a river's watershed and environment. These youngsters will replace us one day. They will become important environmental advocates to sustain our fisheries.

Over the last several months a variety of opportunities have presented themselves to expand our commitment. We, as a club, need to come together with innovative thoughts and ideas and select new areas that are progressive. That's positive. However, the club will be best served if each member of our club, including our Board of Directors (BOD), actively initiates new ideas and concepts even if they may seem outside the box. It's time for innovation.

For last January's Conservation meeting I decided to move out of our usual groove. After talking with our acting president, Dena Mason, I asked Kathy Grant, Lodi's Watershed Program Coordinator, to give a presentation on her outstanding efforts with Lodi's youth. Her "Storm Drain Detectives" program has received out-



Kathy Grant's Storm Drain Detectives working on the Mokelumne River

standing reviews in the press but more importantly it has involved many youngsters who have become involved with local water issues. Her presentation was well received by our membership. Our members asked many questions and made comments about her talk. Importantly, it showed an interest in environmental work by our membership. After the meeting I spoke with Kathy about the possibility of our membership working with her "Detectives" on a variety of issues. She was enthusiastic about the idea and we will continue to talk about a relationship.

As you are aware, the DFF and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) have a positive, long-standing relationship. In the past two decades we have worked with three of their managing biologists. Most recently I have spoken with Michele Workman, their former managing biologist. She has recently been promoted to being in charge of EBMUD's entire Watershed and Recreation responsibilities. Mrs. Workman was excited about EBMUD's positive relationship with DFF and wants to continue it. EBMUD is well known as the most innovative, pro-environmental water district in the entire state of California. Our relationship with EBMUD will lead to our becoming a more active contributor to supporting our fisheries.



East Bay Municipal Utility District's Michele Workman at the Mokelumne River Hatchery looking over Salmon Eggs being incubated in large vats.

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The last two paragraphs show only two possible avenues for the club's support for conservation expansion. I also will be contacting other fly clubs and related organizations for their thoughts and ideas. I'm sure there will be many more creative ideas and possibilities that our BOD and membership can advance. I am looking forward to hearing all of your ideas and concepts.

Feel free to contact me at:

Phone: 209 712 4906

Email: bluse03@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEER ANGLERS NEEDED!

For The Fish! **Yosemite Rainbow Trout Sampling**

Conduct field sampling to support National Park Service research to identify, document, and conserve Yosemite's native rainbow trout population.

**Orientation and sampling kit pick up:
5:00 PM Thursday June 25 @ Cascade Picnic
Area YNP**

**For more information, or if you can't
attend the orientation, email:
centralsierratu@gmail.com**



Putah Creek Cleanup & Restoration Project – June 13, 2026



Many thanks to the volunteer who helped with our initial cleanup at Putah Creek on January 10th. In all, we had 80 people that volunteered from 13 different fly clubs, with work completed on all Putah Creek access points (Access Areas 1 through 5 and Upper Areas P1 & P2). The results were very evident, and access was greatly improved thanks to the efforts of all of the volunteers.

We are looking for volunteers for the **Putah Creek follow up Cleanup scheduled for June 13th** that will cover key access points and include garbage clean up as well as other restoration work to be done. The plan calls for current “existing trails” to be opened to the width of roughly 4 to 6 feet. Riparian areas marked with signs (and with irrigation lines) are to be left alone as these support local plants (including

milkweed) that sustain endangered monarch butterfly populations. Volunteers need to bring necessary equipment & tools including gloves, weed whackers, large clippers, hedge trimmers, etc. with clarification that power tools are either electric (need spare batteries) or gas (with gas filling only in the parking lot areas). No chainsaws are to be brought to the event by volunteers due to liability issues. All volunteers need to sign the “hold harmless” liability form for insurance purposes prior to beginning work for the event on June 13th. People that have pickup trucks that can assist in trash removal to debris bins in Winters after the cleanup are asked to bring them. If you are a member of a fly-fishing club, it would be good to set up car-pools to save gas and due to limited parking at the various access points on Putah Creek.



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The plan is to meet at **Steady Eddy's Coffee House** located at **5 E Main St Suite A in Winters at 7:30 AM on June 13th** where people/groups will be assigned to one of the team leaders (selected by John Feaster) and head to their designated access point. Work should commence about 8 AM and finish by noon.

We will plan to meet back at **Berryessa Brewery** located at **27260 Hwy 128 on the way back towards Winters, where lunch will be served to all the volunteers** (starting at about 12:30 PM) – featuring Taveritte's Italian Sausages along with salads and other side dishes provided by Preserve Restaurant.



Berryessa Brewery offers a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere in a country setting, with scenic outdoor seating, live music, good company and most importantly, excellent fresh beer available for purchase. They offer full pints, half pints, and sample trays, and carry a large selection of cans to go canned in house (from fresh beer) and

64oz tap drawn growlers are also available. In addition to this great venue for our lunch, a raffle will be held for all attendees with great fly fishing gear provided by Lost Coast Outfitters, Orvis & other suppliers. Sign up now, because you don't want to miss out on all of the fun!!



Please be aware that cell phone service is very limited on Putah Creek at the access points, and it is important to meet at Steady Eddy's Coffee Shop in Winters at 7:30 AM as noted above.

If you have any questions regarding the Putah Creek Clean Up on June 13th, please contact Ron Beltramo by e-mail at rjbeltramo@aol.com.

To volunteer, please go to the NCCFFI website www.nccffi.org and sign up at https://www.nccffi.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=195494&item_id=2921365

We appreciate your help...looking forward to a great day together on June 13th at Putah Creek!