



Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

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Outing Calendar

September 6-8 Heenan

September 9-18 Bridgeport

September 22 DBB Fall Classic

September 29 King Island Outing

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My favorite time of year...



Fall has to be my favorite time of year. It is filled with fishing opportunities from the Delta all the way to the Sierras and beyond. In the Delta the stripers are just starting to return, while the largemouth are still working topwater. The cooler days actually extend the largemouth bite with it lasting longer in the mornings and starting earlier in the evenings. The still warm Delta waters also have the stripers looking up with some early morning or sunset top water action a real possibility.

The Sierras also offer some spectacular fishing this year because of the heavy snow fall in the spring. While global warming is a reality, thank goodness it is not a straight line graph. We still have the possibility of some wet years between the years of meager snow fall and drought. This year the streams are cool and full enough to keep the fish hungry and healthy.

I'm no longer to wade a stream effectively, both old age and some health problems have taken their toll. In fact, on a recent shad fishing trip with my friend, Al Smatsky, I fell in three times before he had pity on me and had me stay in his boat while he moored it out at the edge of a productive shad run. The heart is there, the legs are not.

My disability has had me turn to fishing bigger rivers and lakes with my pram(s). Yes, I actually have two. And they have allowed me to discover some angling adventures that I had passed up at an earlier, more limber age. The first of these discoveries was Pyramid Lake in the spring. Instead of doing the ladder thing, I'd launch my pram and row out to the ladder line, anchor both bow and stern and fish, either casting and stripping or with an indicator.

Since I enjoyed that fishery so much I looked for more and re-discovered Heenan

Lake. Heenan is the lake that Cal DFW uses to raise its broodstock Lahontan cut-throat trout. It's only open to fishing two months of the year, September and October and only then for three days a week, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The bite starts early, almost timed exactly with sunrise. The lake is usually covered with rise rings for the first hour of daylight and indicator fishing is explosive. As the sun rises, things become more difficult but as they say in football, "on any given fish day..." things can explode. I hope to fish the lake three times during the two month period and will post it as a club outing for those that want to "get hooked on Heenan."

So that brings me to the club activities for this month. We start out with a club outing to Heenan, September 6th through the 8th. Deltails deeper in this month's bulletin.

The Heenan outing is immediately followed by the Bridgeport outing, this year a week early and running from September 9th through the 15th. Details again, deep inside this newsletter."

Finally, because the Delta is turning on this time of year with so many opportunities to catch double digit numbers of fish, I've volunteered to take on a Delta outing at King Island Marina off Eight Mile Rd. on Sunday, the 29th of the month. The outgoing tide, starting around 6:30 and lasting to 1:30pm is just too good to be ignored.

The club has a special request from Delta Bass Bugs that I think that members would really enjoy/ The "Bugs" people are sponsoring a LMB fly fishing tournament on the Delta, September 22nd with the profits going to Cast Hope. Details are in this bulletin. The club has committed to sponsor the event to the amount of \$100. We need volunteers to work the event as well.

Lance Gray will cover fishing the Feather River for fall steelhead at the September 11th GM meeting

The Feather River located in Oroville, CA it has a large Fall and Spring run of steelhead. The fishery has been in the news lately due to the wild winter we had in 2017. The river has changed in many ways for the good. The high water has cleaned the slate clean. New spawning gravel has been exposed and side channels have opened up for rearing the small steelhead minnows. The presentation gives a well-rounded view of the river. The lecture portion of this presentation covers history, angling information, access points, fly-fishing techniques and flies. Lance will go into the difference of the Fall run verses the Spring run fish and the different tactics we use for targeting these great fish. A totally new presentation.



ter Innovations products. Kirsten worked behind the scenes, handling the day-to-day operation running the manufacturing floor of the company.

In 2003 they launched Lance Gray & Company, a full-service outfitter offering guided trips, fly-fishing schools, workshops and a travel agency. Lance conducts presentations at fly clubs and outdoor shows and supports local groups like Cub Scouts and 4H. He's a signature tier for Aqua Flies, pro staff member for Sage and Rio and is a featured writer, with articles published in Angling Trade Magazine, California Fly Fisher, Fly Fishermen and Northwest Fly Fishing.

Kirsten is a fantastic photographer who's had images published in periodicals and on websites throughout the outdoor industry.

The meeting will take place at the John R. Williams School, on September 11th. Doors open at 6:30, meeting at 7:00. Mike Dempewolfe will have refreshments and the presentation will be followed by the first of the fall's mega raffles. The public is welcome of course.

Lance & Kirsten Gray

Lance and Kirsten have more than 50 years combined experience in fly fishing. Lance started fly fishing with his father and brother Lincoln at age 7. In his teens, he began tying flies commercially for shops all around Northern California. At 17, he went to work at Powell's in Chico, working in the fly shop and building rods. He guided for Powell's, conducted fly-tying and fly-fishing schools, and traveled.

In 1993, Lance and Kirsten started Saltwater Innovations, a company that manufactured and distributed products for saltwater fly fishing. Lance's Crystal Popper, Gray's Billfish Fly, the KO Charlie line and the Raghead Crabs are all Saltwa-

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DFW's special fishery opens up for three days each week for September and October. Big fish, at the top of the Sierras, and not too far from home. The first of this year's club outings is scheduled for the 6,7, and 8th of September

The following is a repeat of the article published in last year's Rx Fly Fishing. It has been edited to meet the requirements of this year's outing.

Yes, Pyramid Lahontan Cutthroat trout get huge, with fish approaching 25 pounds possible. Well, Heenan Lake, near Markleeville doesn't have fish that big but a 28 inch fish is not unheard of and fish of 24 inches are not unusual.

Heenan Lake is operated by the California Department of Fish and Game as a brood stock lake for this ancient species of trout and is off limits most of the year. However, during the months of September and October, DFW opens the lake on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for catch and release fishing.

The 223 acre lake is on Highway 89, 130 miles from Stockton, on the west side of Monitor Pass. Although a few anglers fish the lake from the shore, (if you're ambitious you can walk around the entire lake) most fish it from float tubes, pontoon boats, prams or kayaks. A rough 60 yard dirt road goes down to the lake from the parking lot, allowing the

launching heavier pontoon boats, prams and kayaks. Only human and electric motor powered craft are allowed on the lake.

The lake is located at close to 7,200 feet and can be a problem, especially afternoon winds. However, most days you can fish the lake from when the gates open, a half hour before sunrise, until the gates close, a half hour after sunset.

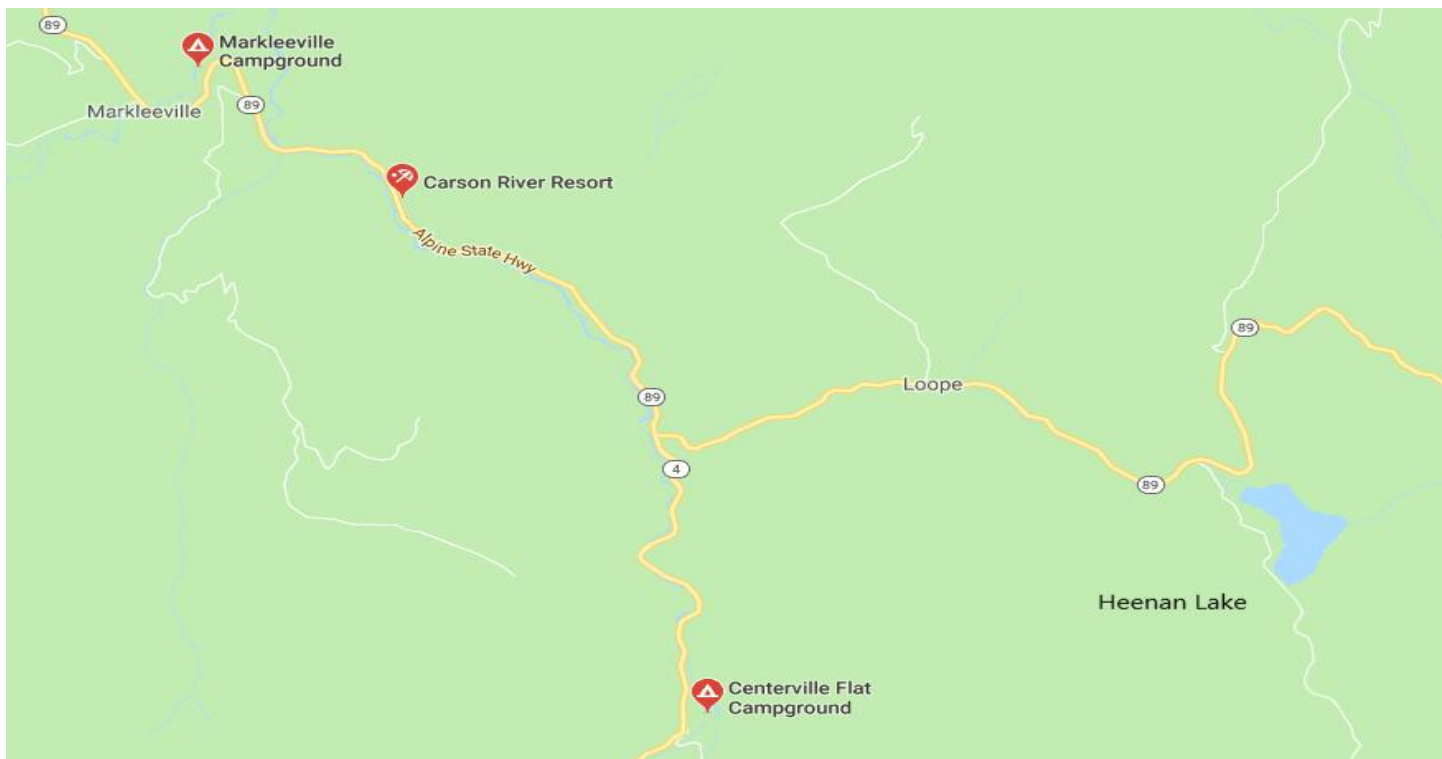
Fishing tactics include streamers and fishing chironomids and other small nymphs under an indicator using a five weight rod and floating, intermediate and #2 sinking lines. Since the lake is only 21 feet deep at its deepest part, almost all areas in the lake hold fish. While the lake fishes well all day, early mornings, as soon as the gates open, are prime with fish rings covering the lake.

The hot fly of the day can vary but anglers should be able to get into fish using #10-12 prinznymphs, olive, light olive, cinnamon, brown, and black woolly buggers and leaches for streamers. Best flies for under an indicator are #12-16 PTs, AP nymphs, copper johns, and chironomids, especially red and wine. Using a hand twist strip with the nymphs can

also be effective when fished on a slow sinking line or a floating line with a long flouro leader.

Jerry Neuburger will be fishmiester for the outing and will be camping at the Centerville Flats Campground, a free dry USFS campground with a single set of vault toilets located on Hwy 4, about 4 miles south of its intersection with Hwy. 89. If you want more refined facilities, the [Carson River RV Resort](#) is close by and you can make reservations. Last year other campgrounds close to the lake had already been closed for the season. They may be open this year since the outing is scheduled one week earlier than last year. The Centerville Flats campground is a dry camp. No water is available at the campsite and there is no camp host. Other fishing opportunities are available close by, the West and East Carson Rivers, and Indian Valley Reservoir are all within 15 miles of the lake.

If you're planning to go on the outing, please contact the fishmiester, Jerry Neuburger, and let him know you're coming. He can be reached via email until Thursday gneuburg@gmail.com or by phone 209-327-5993.



Have you paid your 2020 dues yet? They were due August 1st. If not, look for the recent online invoice you may have received in your email.

The September meeting will feature two raffles

The September membership meeting will feature two raffles. The first will be a raffle for a \$100 gift certificate from Sportsman's Warehouse. The entrées for that raffle are those that paid for their

2020 dues during August of this year.

The second raffle is the first of the fall mega raffles for the general membership. This month's raffle will feature over \$300

in fly fishing gear and clothing. Tickets are 1 for \$1, 7 for \$5, 15 for \$10 or 40 for \$20. All of the profits go for club activities.

The Bridgeport outing is a week early this year

Again, a reprint from last year. This year's outing has been moved up a week due to a conflict in scheduling for Don Gillet, the host of the outing. This year's outing will start on the weekend of September 7th and end on Sunday, September 15th.

For at least two dozen years, the Bridgeport outing has been the club's 'main event'. The area for what can be a week long event for some members offers a

variety of waters to fish, from stream fishing to lake fishing, some stocked, and some wild.

Don Gillet is fishmiester for the event and sets up at the North Robinson Creek Campground, just a few miles north of Lower Twin Lake. Most members bring their float tubes or pontoon boats along and fish either the close by Upper or Lower Twin Lakes or drive south to Virginia and Little Virginia Lakes.

A breakfast at Virginia Lake Resort

where C.J. Webb takes care of the crew is part of the experience as well as the Saturday night barbecue and potluck.

An online check of the campgrounds shows that all of the reserved sites are taken but the BLM campground has about a dozen first come first serve sites. In the past, it has no been a problem to find an open site.

The campground has vault toilets and water. Showers are available at Lower Twin Lake, about three miles away.

If it's the second Friday of the month, it's FlyDay Night Tying night

It's been over a year now that the House of Coffee at Ham and Lockeford in Lodi has hosted the club for Friday night tying. It's an informal gathering with everyone

tying their favorite patterns. Others show up just to chat.

Snacks and drinks are available for the tiers, including draft beer. The evening

starts about 5pm and everyone is usually finished by 7.

If you haven't tried it in the past, show up and say hello. You may make it a habit.

Let's lend a hand to Delta Bass Bugs in their sponsorship of the Delta Fly Fishing Classic to benefit CastHope

Delta Bass Bugs has asked the club to help out with this benefit tournament to help the youth of CastHope, an organization devoted to teaching youth about the outdoors and fly fishing.

Brian and Brad need from six to eight people to assist with the entrees and also ask that some members prepare side dishes to feed the volunteers and entrees at the wind up weigh in and lunch.

Further details will be available at the club's general membership meeting on September 11th.

The club has kicked in \$100 in additional sponsorship to cover some of the event's expenses.

DELTA FLY FISHING CLASSIC - SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

You're invited to join us for some fall fly fishing on the Delta and raise some money for Cast Hope. BBQ Lunch will be provided as well as a cash raffle for some awesome prizes!

Date: Sunday, September 22

Time: Sign Up Deadline 6am

Blast Off at 6:30am, Weigh In at 2pm

Location: Tracy Oasis Resort

12450 W. Grimes Rd. Tracy, CA

Cost: All in \$80 (\$50 entry, \$10 Big Fish, \$20 donation)

\$3 fee for credit card on day of event



If Rx Fly Fishing is your only source of club news, you're only receiving 1/3 of the club's communications. You're missing out!

While the editor (me) of this monthly bulletin tries to cover all of the club's activities for the coming month, he sometimes misses some important events. At other times, because of weather or other circumstances, planned events are changed, cancelled or rescheduled. If you really want to keep up on club activities, three other avenues are out there.

The first is the email reminder system that VP Amy Terra maintains. She sends out pertinent information about changes in events, news that needs to be delivered between club bulletins, and some special requests by the prez and other members. The service had been operated by Steve vonBerg for a number of years but was

handed over to Amy when Steve ran into some network problems.

The second source of info and the most complete and current is the club's website. Amy Terra is the webmaster for this fantastic resource and updates it at least a couple of times a week. In addition to club activities, it has some great resource pages and some well written articles by the webmaster. You can find the club website at www.deltaflyfishers.com. Bookmark it and visit often.

The last resource is just as active and informative as the club website. It's the club's FaceBook page. Bob Fujimura administers this resource and posts articles that will make anyone a better fly

fisher. In addition to Bob's posts, other members post fishing information and details on techniques and hot fishing opportunities. The site has an event page as well where Bob updates club activities for a couple of months in advance. You can find the page by following this link. [DFF Facebook Page](#). Again, bookmark it so you can find it easily next time.

Whether you are a dedicated or just casual member of the club and whether you are a beginner or a well advanced fly fisher, taking in all of the above resources will keep you enthused and informed as to what's going on at the club level and in local fly fishing opportunities.

The Fly of the Month is back, we've reserved the Nature Center for the fourth Wednesday of the month for the coming year

Member Tim Costello has volunteered to lead the Fly of the Month series for the coming year. Tim will either tie or set up a guest tier and instructor for a monthly how-to tie pattern that can be used locally. The classes will be held at the Oak Grove Park Nature Center, on the fourth

Wednesday of the month, with a start time of 6:00 and an expected run time of about two hours.

In addition to the instruction, materials will be furnished to tie from three to five of the selected pattern. A small charge for materials, from \$3 to \$5 is asked for to

keep the program in the black.

The first session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25th, 6:00pm. The month's pattern will be announced at the club's GM meeting on the 11th and posted on the club's website and Facebook page.

How's your casting? Want to improve distance and accuracy? Then come to the club's open casting sessions.

Unfortunately, we do not have a volunteer to conduct organized classes in fly casting. However, that doesn't mean that we've ignored the activity. Our two dynamite ladies, Amy and Dena have dedicated themselves to setting up a casting course at Legion Park in Lodi on the 4th Friday of each month. The course consists of targets at different distances and a long tape for measuring distance

casting. Both Amy and Dena have attended a number of formal classes offered by FFI certified caster, Gary Turri and will impart what they have learned to anyone that shows up and wants the help.

The sessions start at 5pm and last until 6:30 to 7:00pm, depending on the number of people showing up and the interest generated.

By the way, if someone wants to become

a certified casting instructor, the club would seriously consider funding the effort with the understanding that the person make their services available to the club once certified.

I suspect that another series of groups going to Gary Turri for formalized instruction will also be organized before next spring. We'll just have to wait and see.

Haven't paid your dues and lost your emailed invoice, no problem, just follow the links below. Your payment will be matched with your invoice and a receipt sent

[Family—\\$ 35](#)

[Individual—\\$30](#)

[Senior—\\$25](#)

It's striper time on the Delta. Come to the first of the club's fall outings on one of California's jewels, September 29, King Island Marina off Eight Mile Road

Club members that have avoided the delta in the past should seriously reconsider this wonderful resource. While unusual, catches (and releases) of over 100 fish per rod are not unheard of for this fabulous fishery. Not only numbers but size and species can be another lure. Stripers to 30 pounds cruise the waters in addition to Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass, Sacramento Pike Minnow, and numerous sun fish.

Because the delta is a tidal basin, tide plays an important role in an angler's success or failure. Best catches center around high tide, either in an incoming or especially on an outgoing tide.

The last weekend of the month offers an exceptional opportunity for fishing with an outgoing tide starting at about 6:30 in the morning and lasting all the way until 1:30pm.

While some waters on the delta are just too big and dangerous for small craft, the sloughs on the east and south sides of the delta are prime waters for kayaks, prams, canoes and pontoon boats. Because of tidal flow, even these small craft need some fairly powerful propulsion in the

form of gas or electric motors, paddles, oars and in the case of pontoon boats, fins.

Gear consists of seven to nine weight rods with the chances that you just might be under gunned with that seven weight should a big striper grab your fly.

Lines vary from a floating line for topwater poppers and sliders in the low light hours, intermediates to work over weed banks and type sixs and eights including lead core to work the deep runs from 12 to 16 feet.

The leader or tippet is not a complicated affair, just five feet of #20 mono for floating flies, (Leo's twisted leaders are even better) or five feet of #20 fluorocarbon for underwater work.

Flies can be sliders, poppers, crease and gurglers for top water, bubble heads, deceivers and whistlers for intermediate work and clousers for dredging.

WARNING: The tide is a major outgoing for the majority of this outing. If in a craft using oars or paddles, be prepared to be carried downstream for the first portion of the event. As the tide slows at the end of the change around noon, it will be easier to work yourself back up the current.

In addition to propulsion, an anchor is recommended as equipment for all craft. And of course, life jackets for all aboard.

King Island Marina maintains a primitive launch ramp near the intersection

of the levee and Eight Mile Road. Pay envelopes are usually available at the launch area, if not drive to the office and obtain one. Cost to launch has been \$15.00 for trailered craft. No charge for hand carried craft such as kayaks and pontoon boats.

If you want to fish this outing but are not confident about your skills, you might consider booking one of our member/guides, Bryce Tedford, (I've included his club ad as part of this article) if he's not already booked. He offers full and half day trips on the delta and is reasonably priced. I'll make sure he brings you to the club lunch.

Fun times!!!!

September 29 outing info

Date: Sunday, 9/29/2019

Start time: Sunrise 7:00am

Location: King Island Marina, Eight Mile Road, Stockton

End and lunch time: 12:30pm

Launch fee for trailered boats: \$15

This is a club event and will feature a club lunch of barbecued Lockeford sausage sandwiches, beans, salad and drinks. The lunch will be held at the picnic area at the rear of the marina office/store.

Please RSVP fishmiester Jerry if you plan to attend this event. He needs the info for the lunch count. You can RSVP by posting on the club Facebook event page, calling Jerry at 327-5993 or (preferred) emailing him at gneuburg@gmail.com.

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Some of the Delta wildlife that can be seen while fishing. Photo by Jerry Neuburger



An 18 inch striper that made the mistake of eating a clouser. Photo by Jerry Neuburger



Mark DeLaBarre working the rip-wrap. Photo by Jerry Neuburger

More of our webmaster's musings...

Ah Di Nah

By Amy Terra

When I first visited the Mc Cloud River last fall, our awesome guide pointed out the Ah Di Nah campground as a great place to stay and fish. When the Golden West Women's Angling Club scheduled an outing there, I immediately signed up. Arrangements were made for camping, food prepped and packed, gear stowed and a 6 hour drive later, I was pulling on my waders and grabbing my fly rod. As I walked towards the sound of the water, the river came into view. As I stood there I was struck by a moment of panic- I didn't know what to do! Where to start? What to fish? Even which way to wade?

The brush was oppressive. My clothes and skin were pulled at by berry bush thorns. My rod was hooked at every opportunity. I began wading in the water to

get a little relief from the brush. Finally deciding that the only way I had a chance at meeting any Shasta Rainbow was to get a fly in the water, I loosened my rig and began fishing- anywhere... everywhere. I felt a bump! A few drifts later in a different spot, I felt it again. Nice! Right place, right time, right offering. All was a good sign that I was actually fishing. However, I had missed the sets and had no fish to hand. Oh- and how I love the smell of fish on my hands! The daylight was running short on my evening efforts and my stomach was growling in hunger. I began to play the "One last cast" game at a large pool. I had a bump or two but nothing grabbed well. When I finally got to my last- last cast, I felt a firm pull and set well and quickly. A beautiful

12 or 13 inch trout came into view on the end of my line. He had taken a caddis pupa and become my first Shasta Bow taken on the McCloud. And even more so, taken without the help of a mentor or guide. That felt like a big thing to me. It has taken me a long time to get to this point- the point where I catch a fish in a new place without someone to guide me or someone to follow. While I know experienced anglers would have caught a bunch of fish in this waterway, I was



A special club event. A full day with Jon Baiocchi, learning fly patterns, gear and rigging, seasons and fishing techniques for fishing the Yuba River, Dec. 7th

Some of the club's most successful events have taken place away from the water. The late fall seminars of years past are one example. We've been fortunate enough to have some real stars of the sport spend a day with the club, imparting their special knowledge to anyone willing to learn. People like Dan Blanton, J. Fair, Denny Rickards, Andy Burk and recently our own club member, Bud Heintz, have been featured.

In the past the events took place at the Boat House at Oak Grove Park. While the venue is nice, there are some size restrictions that have had us limit the event to just 20 to 25 participants. We've been able to change the venue and increase participation by moving the event to Amy's church in Lodi. The room can accommodate far above the number of people expected and has the advantage of having a kitchen for use as well.

This year's guest will be Jon Baiocchi, son of noted conservationist, Bob Baiocchi. Jon operates a successful guide service <http://www.baiocchistroutfitters.com/> that focuses on Sierra trout and steelhead with one of his favorite pieces of water, the Yuba River at Hwy. 20. Jon will impart all that he can to make an angler successful through a full day's variety of activities including fly tying, entomology, fishing gear and techniques.

With the larger room, the size of the gathering has been increased to a limit of 40. The cost for the day will be \$25 with a lunch of a Lockeford sausage sandwich and fixings included. While our members have first dibs on the spots, we'll have a cut off date when we will open up registration to members of the Amador, Calaveras and Stanislaus clubs as well to fill out the number of attendees. An online payment link will be available next month.



Yuba Fest is for those individuals who recreate, fly fish, protect and enhance the Lower Yuba River. Yuba Fest is co-hosted by Fly Fishing Traditions, [Gold Country Fly Fishers](#) and [Reel Anglers Fly Shop](#).

We invite you to Yuba Fest which happens on October 13th, 2018 from 9am-4pm at [Sycamore Ranch](#) on the Lower Yuba River. Yuba Fest will showcase fly fishing guides, fly clubs, fly shops, environmental groups and State agencies that are all working hard to make the Lower Yuba River and her watershed the best it can be. Yuba Fest co-hosts want to give back to the river that has given many wonderful memories to us all.

The Lower Yuba River is a wonderful place to recreate, fly fish, drift and hike. We want to protect it for future generations. The key to the Lower Yuba's success and future is educating all who love the river. We are hoping that Yuba Fest will become an annual event for years to come.

Admission to Yuba Fest is free to all who would like to participate! We will have workshops to learn about fly fishing and to enhance your fly skills. Our "Fly Fishing for Kid's" element will include fly casting, fly tying and learning about the bugs that trout eat.

An attempt to repeat history

On the equality of fly fishing: There is no more graceful and healthful accomplishment for a lady than fly fishing, and there is no reason why a lady should not, in every respect, rival a gentleman in the gentle art.

... H.C. Prime

Several months ago, President Trump announced his administration intended to divert more Delta water for the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) to corporate mega-farms. This, despite the fact, the Delta Stewardship Council confirmed the Delta required at least 40% of its water flow to pass through the Delta to maintain its viability. To expedite his intentions, President Trump appointed David Bernhardt to be the Secretary of the Department of the Interior (DOI). Bernhardt's credentials fall far short of someone who is competent to occupy the post the Secretary of the DOI.

Bernhardt has never been pro-environment. Before joining the Trump administration, he was a partner in the lobbying firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. He was a lobbyist and attorney for Westlands Water District (WWD). As an attorney and lobbyist, he worked hard to remove all legal protection for salmon. During his tenure as a lobbyist-attorney, he personally argued and lost the case of an appeal challenging protections for salmon. His firm sued the DOI four times on behalf of the WWD and lost. Now, as Secretary of the DOI, he is pushing the Trump Administration's efforts in "maximizing water supply deliveries" to WWD and other corporate mega-farms. This attempt is another in a series of on-going degradations of environmental protections by the TRUMP Administration.

On the 1st of July, The Los Angeles Times received a leaked copy of the 1,123-page biological opinion prepared by federal scientists regarding the Trump administration's proposed water diversions. In the report, scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) "unequivocally concludes increasing water deliveries likely jeopardize the continued existence of the endangered winter-run chinook salmon, the endangered spring-run chinook, and the Central Valley steelhead, as well as the endangered Southern Resident killer whales that dine on the salmon." They also conclude the proposed changes in the Delta water diversion "produce multiple stressors that are expected to reduce survival and the overall fitness of individuals." A major stressor is increasing water temperatures that are deadly to the salmon's eggs and newly hatched fry. Each freshwater life stage will be harmed to some degree by the proposal, with extensive lethal impacts expected on eggs, fry, and juveniles." Also, they expect more deaths to occur at the giant Clifton Court pumps sending water south away from the Delta.

This biological opinion will never be released. Within two days of the federal scientists completing and presenting their biological opinion for review, the Bio Op was shelved. The scientists were dismissed from the project and replaced by "individuals" charged with the task of "revising the Bio OP." "Noah Oppenheim of the PACIFIC COAST FEDERATION of FISHERMANS ASSOCIATION observed a revision of the original Bio Op is "unquestionably an attempt to subvert the best science

available. Literally, before our eyes, we are seeing science suppressed by monied political interests."

Several months ago in our newsletter, I commented that Paul Souza, the regional director of the US Fish and Wildlife, had been placed in a position to expedite the Trump administration's Delta water diversions. He, as expected, denies any political motive behind the attempt to replace the original Bio Op. Souza claims it is all a misunderstanding of the facts. According to Souza, "We're working with career professionals, scientists, and leaders in Sacramento and making sure we do everything in our power to conserve the fisheries that we deeply care about and also meet water supply needs." He also commented the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has agreed to keep May 1st water levels at Lake Shasta to release cold water for the salmon and maintain "smarter" delta pumping restrictions.

Paul Souza's comments do not stand well in the light of reality. First, Bio Ops prepared by political "leaders in Sacramento" are, at the very least, suspect. The federal biologists' original Bio Op concluded, "Delta water operations would jeopardize populations of winter-run chinook and Central Valley steelhead." Fortunately, the original document was leaked to the media. The original Bio Op is being "revised" and the new document will allow more water to be diverted from the Delta to corporate agriculture at the expense of the Delta's environment.

Trump's action is not without precedent. In 2004, then-president George W Bush fired scientists working on a Bio Op about water diversion and storage in northern California. He had the original Bio Op edited and revised to his liking. Many salmon died in the Klamath River and it became a media event. President Bush dispatched vice president Dick Cheney to assess the fish loss. Cheney verified a loss of salmon but claimed it was "just a few fish." In reality, as many as 69,000 salmon died of gill-rot caused by the Klamath's water that was too warm, allowing a resident parasite to flourish. Those who shelved the original Bio Op do not understand the consequences of their actions. They just don't care. When working with water issues you always have to remember at no time in history has a water diversion restored an aquatic environment or restored a fishery.

Trump's water diversion plan will invariably cause another major

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10:00AM - 8:00PM
Sundays
10:00AM - 6:00PM



10536 Trinity Parkway
Stockton, CA
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Store Manager: Aric Emery

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disaster similar to the Bush-Cheney fish-kill of 2004. This time a fish kill may lead to the extinction of the winter-run chinook salmon and other species. The president's action will certainly generate legal opposition.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BEAT LIFE INTO A DEAD HORSE: ATTEMPTS TO REVISE OUR DELTA FISHERIES AND STRIPED BASS POLICY

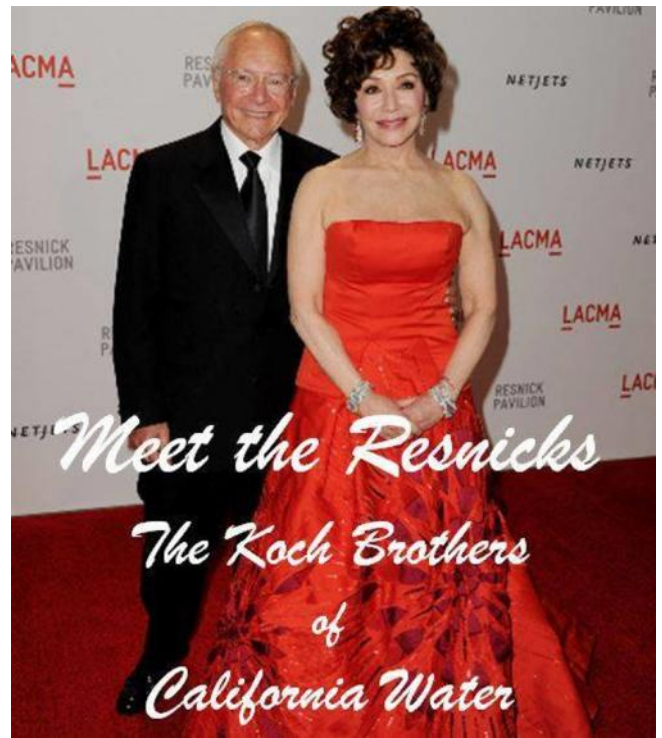
At a meeting of the on August 7 of the California Fish and Game Commission, the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta (CSD) made another attempt at a water grab. As you may be aware the title CSD is an oxymoron. The group cares nothing about sustaining the Delta; its focus is to enrich Stewart and Lynda Resnick. The Resnicks are billionaire agribusiness farmers whose sole interest is to divert Delta water for themselves and other San Joaquin Valley agribusinesses

First a brief history. Several years ago CSD tried the same ploy. They claimed the loss of our salmon was due to the predation of striped bass and other introduced fish. They wanted the number of fish that could be caught greatly increased and the size of fish caught substantially lowered or done away entirely. Science has consistently shown predation is not

the reason for the fish loss in the Delta. The major factors being an unhealthy Delta environment caused by consistent mismanagement of the estuaries water system by both state and federal agencies. Several dozen fishermen spoke to the fallacies of CSD arguments.

Four years before that meeting, our salmon spawning runs had been poor. CSD tried using the same predation arguments. Thirty-nine fisherman spoke against CSD arguments. I pointed out to the commissioners because of heavy rain/snow that year, there was increased flow on the Mokelumne River and we had a near-record return of over 12,000 salmon. It appears there is a 1:1 correlation between water flow and returning salmon. However, the numbers of predators in the Delta remained constant. The commission agreed with the fisherman and rejected CSD case 4-0. The head of the commission then surprised us by saying the stripers and black bass had successfully existed in the Delta for over 100 years and should be declared a resident fish. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote also. We were elated! But now, once again, CSD is back using the same unscientific disproven arguments.

The August 7th CFW Commission meeting was well attended by those opposed to CSD's arguments. Deirdre Des Jardins, a scientist of California Water research, pointed to the fact that stripers also are victims of California water policy and not, "a cause of the collapse of the winter chinook salmon and other endangered species." In an excellent article by Fish Sniffer's Dan Bacher, Des Jardins pointed out, "The Striped Bass is part of an assemblage of pelagic fishes in the Delta. The populations of all pelagic fishes in the Delta have crashed. Major new research from UC Davis shows that one of the causes is that the state and federal water project reservoirs are holding back water in the spring and releasing it in the summer." Bacher also commented on Roger Mammon, a member of Restore the Delta's BOD and PRESIDENT of the WEST DELTA BRANCH of the



STRIPED BASS ASSOCIATION, an observation that CSD observes striped bass and black bass are not native species. Roger points out that, "almond trees are native to the Middle East, Syria, Israel, and Pakistan. Pistachio trees originated the Middle East and Central Asia. Why don't we eradicate or control them? At least the fish in the Delta are native to North America."

The meeting ended with no decision being reached and tabled. The topic will again be discussed at the December 11th meeting. I was unable to attend the last meeting but look forward to the December meeting. It will be held at :

The Natural Resources Building Auditorium

First Floor

1416 Ninth St.

Sacramento

The meeting starts at 8:30. Members of the Delta Fly Fishers need to be there to show our support for the Delta and our fish!

As we get closer to the meeting, information will be available about our attending as a group. This is our home-water fishery! Be there!

Mettler

Family Vineyards

Tasting Room: 7889 East Harney Lane
Lodi, CA 95240

Thurs to Mon 11am-5pm(209) 369-3045



House of Coffees

239 N. Ham Lane
Lodi, CA 95240
209-368-2611

Open 5:30AM week days,
6AM on Saturday, 7AM on
Sunday, until 8PM every night.



Home of Delta Fly Fishers Flyday Night
Fly Tying. First Friday of every month.

By C. J. Webb

Eastern Sierra Focus

CalTrans has had their "STAY ALERT DEER MIGRATION" on their overhead Guide signs since opening of Trout Season and want drivers to be aware that the Mule deer are STILL migrating to their summer grounds at lower elevations and continually crossing the roads. This seasonal event causes accidents and death, so please stay vigilant and watch out for deer browsing near or along the roadside. First deer on the Virginia Lakes Road was hit August 13 around 8:30pm and was a fawn.

Weather Conditions – Early AUGUST weather was cool but warmed up until the morning of August 11th we awoke to 28 degrees causing the aspens leaves to turn over and soon followed with patches of yellow up and down the Virginia Lakes road that continues daily. The last half of August was hot with cool evenings. Daily afternoon cloud cover managed to cool down the surface temperature just enough bring hope of some type of surface action and open up the bite. What to expect in September, that's an unknown but something to look forward to as summer starts to wind down.

CA DFW NEEDS ASSISTANCE - James Erdman

The CDFW will be performing a "depletion" survey of Hot Creek near

Mammoth on September 18-22, 2019. We will need plenty of volunteers to assist. Looking for 20 or more volunteers. If you are capable and willing perhaps you may have the time to join us.

We will be shocking three reaches on consecutive days. Preparation on Thursday 9/18. Shocking 9/19, 20 and 21. Clean-up 9/22.

We will need netters, live car handlers and measure/weighing folks. Also people to clean the block nets above and below designated reaches. This is similar but more detailed than the cursory shocking we have conducted over the last three years. This is the final survey to collect data for comparison to information collected before the drought (2005).

If you can assist that would be great. Please pass along this information to anyone you know that might want to assist. It is tough work, on your feet all day. You will need to bring waders, water and lunch for each day. Some refreshments will be provided. You can come for one day or all five.

Please let me know if you can make it. My phone number and email address are provided in the signature

box below. More details, maps and times will be provided to those interested as the dates get closer.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope to see you at Hot Creek.

James Erdman Environmental Scientist
California Department of Fish & Wildlife
Inland Desert-Region 6-North

Bishop Field Office
787 North Main St., Suite 220

Bishop, Ca. 93515

Ph. (760)-873-6071

Fax (760)-872-1284

James.Erdman@wildlife.ca.gov

CALTRANS HIGHWAY WORK to continue on all California's State Highway System. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated more than \$1.1 billion for a total of 133 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects throughout California, including the 47 fix-it-first projects funded by Senate Bill 1 (SB1), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. The funded projects will replace or improve 880 lane miles, 30 bridges, 474 congestion reducing devices, and repair 83 culverts to prevent flooding on highways.

So let's keep our cool and be patient at all highway construction/repair projects as this will only make our next fishing trip quicker with better roads and safety measures for all travelers.

Fishing Tip: Humbling refusals!

When refusals are nagging at your competency, switch to a more sparsely tied fly on a lighter hook. The fish are taking duns off the surface and quite consistent, but they refuse your fly. Trout rising steadily learn to use just enough energy to suck in floating duns. But our offerings are much heavier than the naturals they imitate and require a stronger "suck" than the sucking rhythm the trout is used to.

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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 fish. Whether a beginner or

experienced fly fisher, man or woman, you will have an incredible time.

"Make your reservations now."

Scott Sugimoto

(530) 276-1612

scott@ontheriffle.com

Follow me on Insta-



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Switch to a more sparsely tied fly on a lighter hook, perhaps less dubbing, and a single hackle wrap and without wings similar to a small spider; if you don't have one, switch to a smaller fly. The trick is to find a fly light enough for the trout to inhale with the same energy it uses to inhale naturals.

Legislative News – CA Legislature resumed August 12th; at that time all standing bills not resolved will be heard. Good news is that the “Bill” is not dead.

AB1387 - Assembly member Jim wood of Santa Rosa authored Assembly Bill 1387 that will transition California's calendar-based fishing license to one that is valid a full 365 days from the date of purchase. The bill, sponsored by the California Sportfishing League (CSL), is co-authored by Assembly member James Gallagher of Yuba City and a bipartisan group of 12 other legislators.

CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
2020 Proposed Fishing Regulations
- UPDATE

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Inland/Trout-Plan/Regulation-Simplification>). No change.

CDFW “Buy a Stamp” to help a Game Warden

Officials at the CDFW are urging anglers to contribute to a Warden Stamp Program that helps game wardens and the enforcement of fish-and-wildlife laws. According to the CDFW, purchase of the \$5 stamp will “procure vital equipment, protective gear, and training for wildlife officers and enhance the department’s K-9 Program.” Information on how to make a donation is available at:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/wardenstamp
CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

The next meeting is September 3, 2019 teleconference meeting agenda is now available at <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=174167&inline>. Please refer to the agenda for important meeting information and deadlines.

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Stocking

Updated trout releases will be on their web-site (<http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FishPlants/>) or call their specific region (Inland Deserts 855.887.1275) **CDFW has an updated free downloadable app for** Freshwater Sport Fishing Regulations application at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/regulations>. It tracks your current GPS location and will tell you the regulations of the water where you are standing and regulations for waters within a designated area or approximately a five-mile radius. Take a look, it's very handy.

AT THE BENCH: New materials/tools



Kreelex is one of the hottest streamer patterns on the Missouri River in Montana. The main ingredient in The Kreelex streamer pattern is...you guessed it...Kreelex flash! Actually it is the only ingredient besides lead eyes and some thread.

More supple than Krystal Flash, and just a touch less flashy: Kreelex is a very unique material. The flashy aspect seems almost dulled metal rather than polished metal. When you look at this stuff, it looks like it almost changes color with movement going from a dark, almost black, to it's dyed color. How this works with the "Kreelex fly" is that when you let it drift (either dead or swinging) it doesn't look like much, but give it a twitch and all that flash lights up! Much like a wounded baitfish struggling for life. It's weird, you will just have to try it yourself. Guides really like it on dirty-water streamers. It may also be something you will want to try on saltwater flies.

Semper-Fli Bodyspan – Bodyspan is an elastic spandex material that is very stretchy and brightly colored. It's actually kind of weird, but I have

been considering it's possibilities recently. Ideally suited for tying nymphs and buzzers, it makes great bodies, ribs, and shell backs. It also comes in a 5 yard spool which is a good supply.



What is really nice about this stuff is how stretchy it is. It's so stretchy in fact, that you can stretch it to the size that you need and will work anywhere from sizes 12 -20. It works really great for tying a quick caddis.

Semper-Fli Nano Silk – This tying thread is a Gel Spun Polyethylene thread that is very thin, but very strong that produces a clean, strong body. How thin? They are calling this a 30 denier/18/0 thread. Now that's thin. A lot of midge patterns are just tied with 70 denier Ultra or 8/0 Uni-threads. 18/0 is those threads... but halved. However! This is no straight “midge” thread. No, this thread is more than that. It works well for building very fine bodies and small heads for the most discerning of trout; Nano Silk also works amazingly well when tying small deer and elk hair winged flies that call for a small tie in point while holding strong with greater torque. If you are one who often asks, “How can I get a cleaner looking fly” be it nymphs or dries, you may want to check this thread out. While the price may seem a little high for thread, it is well worth the cost if you are wanting cleaner, and more slender flies especially for those picky tailwater trout. Oh, and did I mention this stuff is STRONG? For it's size, you can really crank on it.

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There are heaps of uses for these materials. I was even able to whip up a few caddis nymphs using Bodyspan, Kreelex, and Nano Silk. They were quick and easy ties that worked really well.

Half-Hitcher, an object that sits in my hand like a rather nice pen. The Shmaen Half-Hitch tool is all metal, looks like anodized aluminum, the surface is exceptionally smooth – thread simply glides over it.

Wrap thread around the barrel, one or more wraps, place the tip against the eye of the hook, gently pull at an angle and the thread slips off the tapered tip and, hopefully, over the eye to tighten on the head of your fly. Whip finishing is more deliberate, with a whip-finishing tool you can form nicely shaped head, whipping by hand you can hide thread under dubbing. Or now I can throw on a couple of hitches, pull right then turn the tool around, thumb on the button to slide out the hidden cutter, and pop the thread from the head.

Shmaen Half-Hitch tools come in three sizes: blue-midge; red – regular; green – large. The cutters can be unscrewed and replaced. (Tying small flies, maybe size 18 and smaller, the midge half-hitch tool comes into its own, a couple of tight hitches make a very neat little head.) From Shmaen stockists at £24.95 each, a bit pricey but the convenience is very handy and would make a nice Christmas gift to yourself.

Pull and Tear – Terra Dubbing Brush

A tight twist of wire bristles in a knurled aluminum handle. This brush looks and feel more aggressive than a

Velcro patch, or two strokes from the Terra brush seems to do the same as some brushing with a Velcro covered popsicle stick.

The wire bristles are tightly packed and stiff. Dubbing fibers tangle in the brush, pull down and the fibers are pulled and even broken where softer nylon bristles and hooks (Velcro) are more gentle but need more scrubbing to tease dubbing out as nicely.

A simple and effective tying tool. Ideal for synthetic dubbing, good for seal and hare type dubbings.

Available on-line for about 4.50.

Fishing Report

LOWER OWENS – Water, fishing and hatches are fair to good. The flows are steady at 202.1cfs as of 8/29. Flows are getting higher and the prediction is it will continue to come up over the next couple of weeks, but if you can stand the heat and high flows you should have plenty of privacy. Most fish will be caught nymphing. There is some surface action in late mornings. Keep an eye out for Stonefly and Mayfly hatches around noon. Sort of a broken record but click on any stream report right now and you'll know what's happening here. Micro Caddis emergence starts at daybreak followed immediately by the female Tricos and then around 9 the spinner fall commences. Recommended Flies

DRIES: Para Adams #14-16, Spent Partridge Caddis #16-18, Yellow and Tan Stimulators #14-16, Brooks Hot Creek Caddis #20-24, Emerging Female Trico #20-22

NYMPH: Pheasant Tail #14-18, Tungsten Psycho #16-18, Barr's Trico Emerger Black #20-22. STREAMERS: Woolly Bugger Olive & Black #10-12, Mini Sculpin Olive & Black #10-12.

ROCK CREEK LAKE - Mosquitoes are still there, so bring your Off Backwoods Dry 30% Deet, it's the best for your skin according to the recent studies.

Same report; I'd stick with the same action near the inlet. Try Woolly Bug-

gers in Dark olive, Black or Burgundy size 8 even toss a dark purple in the mix. Also try caddis patterns, small stoneflies, moths and the balanced leech. Walk up the stream and see what's happening where the MOSQUITOES hide out with every bug that knows the area. You'll be surprised once you walk the bushy areas and it will give you a better appreciation of what you've been missing.

UPPER OWENS – Current flow is 111cfs as of 8/29. Fishing has gotten a little tougher on the Upper Owens. The larger fish coming out of Crowley are spreading out and with all the fishing pressure they're getting a lot more selective. Tricos are hatching at first light with the spinner fall mid morning, PMD mayflies are hatching around noon, and the Caddis and male Tricos in the evening. And then there are the hoppers, Hoppers, HOPPERS. Hopper action is best when the wind blows. Fishing seems to shut down in the late afternoon, but picks up again around sunset. DRIES: Stimulator #16-18, Elk Hair Caddis #14-18, Extended Body BWO #14-18, CDC Spring Hopper Tan or Yellow #10-16, Streambank Hoppers #10-14, Rubber Leg Parachute Hopper #10-16, Brooks Sprout Trico #18-22. NYMPHS: Hares Ear #14-18, Radiation Baetis #16-18, Barr's Uncased Caddis #14-16, Zebra Midge #16-18, WD-40 black #18-20. STREAMERS: Shock Collar Leech #10, Woolly Bugger, Olive & Brown #12-10

CROWLEY LAKE - The dreaded Daphnia population has exploded so if you're in an area where the fish are suspended, move on. Deep water midging will be most productive outside the weed beds in McGee Bay. Look for fish from 2 to 30 feet of water, sorry but that's the way it is. On the bright side, the shallower you fish the less of an effect the Daphnia have. The surface temps. are still below normal but the fish are moving towards the stream mouths. The damsel and callibaetis emergence has picked up and the perch fry are now eating

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size, several anglers have caught large fish that have coughed up 20-30 perch fry at a time. There are fish showing inconsistently all around the lake so with a little exploring you might find the next hot spot and have it to yourself for a while. **DRIES:** Damsel adults and Callibaetis duns and spinners. **NYMPHS:** Copper Zebra #16-18 | Shaft Emerger #16-18, Albino Baron #16-18, Bubba's Callibaetis #14-16, Damsel Flies #12-16

STREAMERS: Marabou Leech Brown #12, Crystal Bugger Olive #12, Punk Perch #14-16, Balanced Birds Nest #14-16

HOT CREEK – Water and fishing conditions are good. Flows are at 65.2cfs as of 8/29 and continue to drop. The weeds are still not a factor, and Hoppers are everywhere. Most fish are looking up and want a fly sitting high off the surface. If you are getting refusals, treat your fly, or go down a size. Tricos and Caddis start the day with a smattering of PMD's but the small Stoneflies are gone. The PMD's are starting to fade but still keep an eye out for them. Evenings are Midges and male Tricos with plenty of Caddis if the wind dies down. **DRIES:** Spring Creek Hopper #12-16, Parachute Extended Body BWO #16-18, Chernobyl Hopper #14-12, Spent Partridge Caddis #16-18, Stimulators #16-18. **NYMPHS:** Hares Pheasant #14-18, Barr's Uncased Caddis #14-20, Juju Baetis #16-20, Zebra Midge #18-22. **STREAMERS:** BH Bopp Leech Olive & Brown #12-10, Wooly Bugger Olive & Brown #12-10

CONVICT LAKE – Same report. Marvel wet flies are perfect for catching the big ones in the lake. The best way to use the fly is to thread your line through a 1 1/2 in. plastic bubble and a swivel large enough not to be pulled through the bubble. Attach a 5-6 ft. leader to the swivel using 4 to 6 lb. test line. Tie your fly to the leader and fill the bubble completely with water. Cast your fly out into the water. The bubble will sink about 3

inches per second. Reel the fly in slowly with a twitch from time to time. Strike any unusual pull or drag as fish sometimes bite softly. Marvel flies are available for purchase in the general store. This is a good method for that fly, but standard streamers should also work. The resort is consistently loading the lake up with nice trophies so don't miss out on the action.

MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN – Both water and fishing conditions are good. Stripping streamers is still productive, make sure to fish structure. Also fishing dry dropper rigs will work this time of year, especially with Callibaetis patterns. As the hatch progresses they will switch from nymph to adult. Callibaetis and Damsels are now emerging mid to late morning especially on Twin Lakes, the Callibaetis Spinner fall coincides with the emergence so just another piece of the puzzle to figure out. Start concentrating along the weed lines and drop offs as new hatches are going off. Early and late fish midge dries in and around the weed beds. **UPDATE:** Lake Mary now has big Damsel hatches as well, late morning until early afternoon. If you're in a boat or float tube cast out towards the drop offs and fish back towards shore or any weed beds or logs where the Damsels can crawl out to emerge. Shore fishing is a little trickier but any place you can cast out into the lake is worth trying.

DRIES: Stimulators #12-14, Yellow Sallies #12-14, Parachute Adams #16-18, Griffiths Gnat #20-24
NYMPH: Red Copper John #14-16, Zebra Midge #16-18, Everson's Filo Swimming Scuds #14-16, Sierra Damsel #12, Janssen Emerging Callibaetis #14-16

STREAMERS: Docs Twin Lakes Special, Brown, Olive, & Black #10-12

SAN JOAQUIN – Flow is 86.3cfs as of 8/29. If you decide to head down there I recommend the afternoon. The magic number for flows is under 100 and we are just getting there. The Drakes are emerging off and on throughout the day with primetime in the evening, anytime you get to use a #12 dry fly is a treat. **DRIES:** Stimulators #14-18, Flavilinea Dun #12-16. **NYMPHS:** Hares Ears #14-18, Red Copper John #14-18.

You can call the Visitor Center for current status at (760) 924-5500 for updates on the conditions.

JUNE LOOP – Stop in at Ernie's for the latest info on all lakes. When you see fish feeding on the surface mostly in the mornings when it's calm roll with dries including gnats, mosquitoes and caddis. You'll get more hits in lakes anywhere when stripping in with the fly slightly submerged. As the day goes on switch to streamers and buggers deeper with sink line or add some split shot dragged and twitched along. Also try a bead head wet fly with a nymph dropper.

JUNE LAKE – Periodic plants of the Oregonians have been put in by Ernie's Tackle and Ski Shop's Trout Fund and the individual Marinas/Resorts. Remember it's called fishing not catching. It will seem slow everywhere due to the warm days and warm water. There are a lot of fish everywhere you just need to adjust your sights a bit lower and take some advice. It never hurts to learn a new method for catching those bottom hugging buffet munchers.

SILVER LAKE – Same report except try and keep all your sunscreen and lotions off your hands when handling flies, fish can detect odors. Labor Day Horseshoe Tournament and BBQ is coming up Sat. the 31st. so give them a call for details. The fishing at Silver has been doing well even especially with the cooler water from above. It's warm all over and it puts the fish down, so go deeper than you normally would and try something different.

GRANT LAKE – Bruce at the marina figures the lake has dropped about six feet since it was over the spillway. As the level drops it frees up more access to shore fishing. Chuck some large flies near rock outcroppings along the shore where there are no fisherman. Put extra weight above the fly to get it down as surface water is warm, and they love cold water especially the browns.

RUSH CREEK – Rush Creek has been putting out some nice bows coming down from Silver Lake including a 2lb4 using a grasshopper fly pattern.

LUNDY LAKE – Similar report as last month's. Water level is holding at the current level and haven't heard if they

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plan to do more work in the fall. Check in with Bob Owens at the resort and get the latest fly info before you hit the water. This bug thing is crazy and it's everywhere, and they are coming off consistently with terrestrials, ants, hoppers and very small gnats. Check the water's edge and also the bushes for bugs and try your luck with some dries. Man cannot live on streamers alone. Bob still says most anglers hitting the water in boats are trolling large streamers. Stake out your area and be observant to what's fluttering around. Not sure when Bob will shut down the resort, but he still has a lot of customers staying at the resort.

BIG VIRGINIA – BFEF dumped some nice tagged fish this last week and they are still being caught. The thermometer hit a high around the 18th thru the 21st with no prediction of moisture in the forecast. Flies working are black, dark olive, white and dirty doc woolly buggers size 8 or 10. Olive Matuka's size 8, grey ghosts, callibaetis, black elk hair caddis, any moth pattern, Hale Bop leech in olive and a couple standard dries. Also try seal buggers, leech patterns, Matukas, and soft hackles.

LITTLE VIRGINIA is starting to see more surface action over the last two days or so due to the cloud cover but since the am temps are warmer things have changed. A bit of precipitation hit US395 just north of Mammoth creating a lot of thunder activity over the canyon. Flies working have been my Dirty Doc #10, Prince Nymph #16, hare's ear (no weight) under an olive bugger or leech but don't forget the Zebra midges, copper zebra and reverse. DRIES: Olive elk hair caddis, Grey Hackle Peacock, Adams, and a black Gnat have been the best choice for dries. Wrong time of year for salmon eggs, but you might want to bring along some egg patterns in red with a bit of gold as a tag.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR – The fishing on the Reservoir has been up and down due to the water temperature, but a good hearty strip and a tug should produce some fish. The surface temperature is a bit high but there is still a lot of cold water coming into the reservoir from snow melt. The fish are

deeper than usual and scattered. There has been some pretty good action lately stripping leech patterns down near the dam has produced some nice browns this past week and there are some fly anglers doing well up in Buckeye Bay stillwater nymphing. Be careful with playing and releasing fish if the water temperature gets too high. Keeping a thermometer in your vest might be a great option if you care about the resource.

EAST WALKER – The flows on the East are **315cfs as of 8/29**. "Water temps have now gotten up to where it's 70+ by midday so it's best to keep your fishing to the early morning spinner falls and evening hatches for now. The early morning Trico emergence and following spinner fall is impressive along with the PMD spinner fall and the enormous (#12-14 2x1) orange and yellow midges flushing out of the reservoir. Caddis are most active early and late. DRIES: Spent Partridge Caddis #14-16, Panty Dropper Hopper #10-14. NYMPHS: Tungsten Psycho #16-14, Golden Bead Biot Epoxy Stone #8-10, Dead Drift Crayfish #8, BH Chiron Larva Blood #14, Worm-Annalid #16-18. STREAMERS: Meat Whistle, Sculpzilla

TWIN LAKES BRIDGEPORT

Like the Reservoir, the Twins are still chugging along, producing some good 2 to 5 pound fish each week, not always for every angler out there but some anglers are doing very well. I would expect the action on all the local waters to get better when the weather starts to cool down, this usually happens around the first week in September. Fly anglers have been using woolly buggers, soft hackles, prince nymphs, seal buggers and mini leeches per JR at Ken's.

HONEYWELL POND – Didn't have any anglers this past week, so check with Ken's Sporting Goods for the latest report.

SCEIRINE RANCH - The ranch fished well again this week, mainly on caddis nymphs and San Juan's, as with the California side, the water is still a little high but if get your bugs down near the bottom you should be able to

have some good days out there.

KIRMAN LAKE – No news from Kirman this week, but check with Ken's Sporting Goods in Bridgeport to get the latest news.

WEST WALKER – The flow is 114cfs as of 8/29 and starting to get some decent reports from there. The DFW put some fish in the West this week so the action picked up fairly well; the water is lower and clear compared to a few weeks ago. It's also hopper/dropper season up there for the fly anglers so a good hopper pattern and a soft hackle or prince nymph should produce well.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY from Caltrans:

Lane closure for the week of 8/26 – 8/31/19

Southbound Long Valley Thin Blanket Project – On US Highway 395, from 1.3 miles south of South Landing Road overcrossing o the junction of US Highway 395 & State Route 203, crews will be placing a new asphalt surface on the roadbed. Tuesday, July 23 from 9:00am to 10:00am, the SR 203 southbound on-ramp to US Highway 395 till be closed and a detour will be available.

Conway Guardrail Project – On US Highway 395, 6 miles south of Bridgeport to State Route 270, crews are reconstructing the guardrail system along this stretch of the highway. Traffic will encounter lane and shoulder closures with no anticipated delays. Monday through Thursday – 6:00 am to 8:00 pm, and Friday, from 6:00 are to 3:00 pm.

Aspen/Walker Shoulder Project – On US Highway 395, from the junction of State Route 108 to 2 miles north of State Route 108, construction crews are widening the highway. Traffic may encounter up to 30 minute delays as vehicles are piloted through the active work zone. Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 4:00 pm.

See you on the water and keep 'em wet. CJ 19/8

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