



Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

Volume LI

Number 9

September 2026

Randall Baxter, Editor

Stockton, California

Calendar

September 9, General Meeting, John R Williams Elementary School, 2450 Meadow Ave. Stockton. Open 6:30 pm, meeting starts 7:00.

September 11, Friday Night Casting. Hutchins St. Square, 125 So. Hutchins St., Lodi, 5-7 pm.

September 16, Board of Directors Meeting, Oak Grove Nature Ctr, Eight Mile Rd., Stockton, 6:30 pm .

September 23, **CANCELED**. Open Fly Tying, Oak Grove Nature Ctr, Eight Mile Rd., Stockton, 6:30 pm

Club Announcements

- There will be **NO Open Fly Tying in September**; Open Fly Tying will resume Wednesday October 28.
- It's the start of another DFF membership year, and time to pay dues. You can pay online -- follow the links from the DFF webpage -- or in person.
- FFI FlyFest 2026, September 24-26, 2026, Redding Cal. Agenda and details. Organizers are looking for volunteers. (see pg 17).
- Annual Fly-Tying Day 2026, featuring Tim Au-Young. December 5, 2026. Details and information to sign up (see pg 15)
- Celebrating 50 years promoting fly fishing, conservation and comrodery!

Find DFF online at

<https://www.deltaflyfishers.com>

And on Face Book at

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

Next Delta Fly Fisher General Meeting

Date: Wednesday September 9

Location: John R Williams School, 2450 Meadow Ave. Stockton

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

Join us for some light snacks and conversation before the 6:30 meeting start. Catch up with friends on fish stories and future fishing plans.

Presentation Information: Jim Lintz, Amador Fly Fishers, Tenkara fly fishing. (see pg 2).

September Speaker Background.

Jim Lintz has been a fly fisher for over 40 years and a devoted tenkara fisher of the last four years. He attended Humboldt State and earned a degree in Fishery Biology in the 1980s. Jim worked with the State and Federal Fish and Wildlife departments on projects on the Klamath and Trinity River drainages. He is a long-time member of the Amador Flyfishers and currently its Conservation Chair. Jim focuses on preventing the spread of invasive species by fly fishers by fly fishers and runs a 'get the lead 'out program to remove old lead shot and lead wire from entering the environment. He participated in last year's Bishop Tenkara Bootcamp and will be attending this year's event in October as well. Tenkara angling, or fixed line fishing, is relatively new to America but has been in use in Japan for centuries. The small high mountain streams where tenkara was developed have been given the American makeover with no regards to traditional line types and fly choices and even adding weighted flies to the mix. Casting techniques, however, are still made the same traditional way. Jim will go over tenkara rod types, actions, gear and how to choose and set up a tenkara rod. Casting techniques, hook setting and how to fight a fish on tenkara and more will be covered.

Upcoming Events with the Delta Fly Fishers

By Bob Fujimura

Lower Mokelumne River - Every Thursday Evening – Amy Terra invites all DFF members to fish with her at the Mokelumne River Day Use Access Park every Thursday evening; contact her for more information.

General Membership Meeting – Wednesday September 9: Our guest speaker will be Jim Lintz who is recognized officer of the Amador Flyfishers and local expert on Tenkara fly fishing. Jim will discuss everything one needs to know to get started with this Japanese form of fly fishing. This talk will be a good primer on Tenkara fly fishing and why he enjoys practicing this old Japanese fly fishing method.

Come meet Jim before the meeting and share dinner with him at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, 5733 Pacific Ave, Stockton starting at 5 pm. Contact Bob Fujimura at (209) 329-1692 or email at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com to let him know that you are coming.

Meetings are held each month at the John R Williams Elementary School, 2450 Meadow Ave. Stockton. We will have the usual fishing reports, fun raffles, business reports, snacks and refreshments. Doors
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open at 6:30 PM; the business meeting begins at 7 PM. The public are also welcome and bring a friend.

Friday Night Casting Session - Friday September 11: Monthly casting instruction continues at Hutchins Street Square, 125 S Hutchins St, Lodi, CA from 5 to 7 pm. FCSD Bronze and Silver courses will be available, but we can work on anything you want! There will be loaner rods and eye protection available. All participants must have a 2026 liability waiver signed and on file. All instruction is free and open to the public. All Friday night casting nights are shifted an hour later (6-8) if the temperatures reach 100 degrees so please watch the thermometer throughout the summer. Contact Amy Terra (209-329-4801) for more information on this monthly session.

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

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday September 16: The executive officers and interested volunteers will meet and discuss club business. We need more volunteers to help these officers to operate a successful club. It is a good time to get familiar with the business side of the club and its most active members. All club members are welcome to join us at the Nature Center at Oak Grove Park, Eight Mile Road, Stockton starting at 6:30 pm. Contact Vice President Dena Mason at (209) 662-3079 for more information on this meeting and how to enter exit the Park after hours.

FFI FlyFest – Thursday September 24 – Saturday 26: This will be a great opportunity to connect with fellow fly fishers during a three-day celebration of fly fishing, community, and hands-on learning. Whether you're a lifelong angler or new to the sport, FlyFest offers the chance to connect, learn, and be inspired. Think of this year's FlyFest as The Fly Fishing Show, with the added bonus of having a wide variety of outstanding fishing destinations all within an hour's drive of Redding. For more information, go to the event's website: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FlyFest>

Mammoth Lakes Outing – Sunday October 4 – Thursday 8: This is a week-long trip with host Bill Brown and women from the Wufflies' original Bridgeport outing (?) that will include stream fishing with lake fishing- your choice. You can fish with guide Doug Rodricks or without one. We will rent

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DFF Officers



President
Vacant

Vice President
Dena Mason

Secretary
Bill Brown

Treasurer
Brenda McIntosh

Directors
Nancy Baker
Ron Forbes
Larry Schmidt
Randy Baxter
Bob Fujimura
Charlie Reames
Norm Cassin

209-368-5767
209-482-8742
209-200-9739

Committees

Bob McMillan Trout Bout (March)
Greg Pettis

Casting
Amy Terra

Catfish Derby (June)
Greg Pettis

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

Education/Outreach
Dena Mason

Monthly Raffles
Chair needed

NCCFFI Representative
Bob Fujimura

Outings
Bob Fujimura

Programs
Chair needed

Property/Historian
Charlie Reames

Refreshments
Mike Dempewolf

Rx Fly Fishing!
Randy Baxter

Trout Bout (November)
Charlie Reames

Webmaster
Amy Terra

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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
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CALIFORNIA
COUNCIL

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a local condo in or near Mammoth Lakes, so we can eat some meals together, share our fishing accomplishments and generally be together during the non-fishing hours. There will be more information about this event in this issue of the newsletter or contact Bill Brown (209-609-5584) or Amy Terra (209-329-4801).

Night Casting Session - Friday October 9: Monthly casting instruction continues at Hutchins Street Square, 125 S Hutchins St, Lodi, CA from 5 to 7 pm. FCSD Bronze and Silver courses will be available, but we can work on anything you want! There will be loaner rods and eye protection available. All participants must have a 2026 liability waiver signed and on file. All instruction is free and open to the public. All Friday night casting nights are shifted an hour later (6-8) if the temperatures reach 100 degrees so please watch the thermometer throughout the summer. Contact Amy Terra (209-329-4801) for more information on this monthly session.

Lower Sacramento River Guided Float Trip – Saturday October 10: Guide Scott Sugimoto will again host for a group float trip during one of the prime seasons of the year. Participants are invited to a wrap-up dinner on later Saturday evening to share fishing stories. This float trip will cost \$300 per person (based on double occupancy of each drift boat; includes all necessary equipment, group lunch, and shuttle service; guide tip

excluded). Contact Bob Fujimura (209-329-1692) to see if registration is still open. A signed 2026-2027 DFF liability waiver is required for registering for this outing.

Free Casting Classes in SF Park – Saturday October 10: Free casting lessons at Golden Gate Casting Ponds at 1232 John F Kennedy Dr. San Francisco, CA 94122 resumes this month. Lessons run from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Rods available for loan for the lessons. Clinics available for all levels of casting led by the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club of San Francisco. Participants must preregister online via the GGACC website. A few of the DFF officers and members participate in this monthly GGACC event; contact Amy Terra at (209) 329-4801 for more information on this event.

General Membership Meeting – Wednesday October 14: Our guest speaker will be our own Amy Terra speaking on a subject dear to her heart. More program information to come. Meetings are held each month at the John R Williams Elementary School, 2450 Meadow Ave. Stockton. We will have the usual fishing reports, fun raffles, business reports, snacks and refreshments. Doors open at 6:30 PM; the business meeting begins at 7 PM. The public are also welcome and bring a friend.

Thursdays on the Moke -- then and now

By Amy Terra

NOW: For the past 3 or 4 weeks, a consistent group of us have been heading out to the Mokelumne River on Thursday evenings. While this is our closest water and, therefore our home water, I have not spent too much time fishing there the last few years. More than a decade ago when my fly fishing adventure began, I would head out to the Moke every Wednesday evening, cutting my fly fishing teeth. I did this for months before I hooked and landed my first trout. I had no idea what I was doing and my learning curve was steep. Over the following years, I found spots and holes on the Moke that held fish and I began catching fish consistently. Then I began venturing off to other waters and have fished the Moke very little in recent years. In my re-

dedication to fish more regularly, I committed to fishing there weekly and have invited all of you to join me on Thursday evenings on our home waters.

The waterway below the dam in the day use area has changed greatly as EBMUD has placed copious amounts of gravel below the dam at the Van Assen Day Use Area where we meet. Many of the holes that held large fish have been filled in and the river presents as largely a flatter river with an average three footish depth. Wading is easier but the fish are smaller. There are lots of them and they are just about everywhere on the river. A small run or hole can be found but the fishing has

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changed so much from what I first found a decade ago. If you don't mind the size of fish you catch, the catching can be prolific. I have had double digits in a few hours each week as I have explored different areas below the dam each week we have gone out. Almost all anglers are at least getting bites and grabs and catching more and more fish each week. Please feel free to come on out. We get there when we can in the evening and fish until we get cold (7ish usually). Wading is friendly but I always wear a PFD and use a wading staff (I am clumsy as heck). I have been fishing my picky fish nymph on an intermediate line because I love casting and swinging a fly. Other DFFers have been tightlining, indicator fishing and dry fly fishing. Call me with any questions- 209-329-4801. Hope to see you on our home waters!

THEN: As a homage to our storied history and reading through copies of newsletters from the 80's and 90's, many of the newsletters detailed DFF's fight to protect the fishery that is our home water all throughout the 80's. This fight culminated in many things including a use agreement that made the day use area where we are fishing Thursday nights a public area. In the June 1990 bulletin of Rx Fly Fishing!, edited by **Ray Cole** and **Bill Lounsbury**, the following article appeared about **John Van Assen** who the day use area is named for. Here is the copy from that article:

John Van Assen– A True Environmentalist

Van Assen Park, directly below the Comanche Dam, is appropriately named for John Van Assen who was one of the residents of San Joaquin County who was a dedicated and tireless worker for the environment.

As a student at Ripon High School, he was a member of Ernst Poletti's speech squad, learning to argue

forcefully for matters which concerned him. Shortly after his graduation, he found opportunities everywhere to speak out for the protection of our resources. He affiliated himself with a host of conservation groups, the Stockton Rod and Gun Club, The Associated Sportsmen of California, and other organizations which were concerned over the harmful effects of the diversion of Delta waters southward.

He was employed for over 30 years by the Stockton Record, but found time to serve for 11 years on the State Water Quality Control Board. His three terms on the board were suddenly terminated by Governor Reagan since Van Assen's forceful position on water quality matters was at odds with the Governor's stance.

John was an energetic champion of more and better recreation in our county and was a charter member of the San Joaquin County Recreation Commission, on which he served for 16 years, acting as chairman for two terms. Under his leadership, the county established Oak Grove Regional Park, and the park named for him on the Mokelumne River.

The thousands of people who have enjoyed the park named for him and those who use Oak Grove Park year round do owe a great deal to John Van Assen, who gave so many years of his life working and speaking for all who are enjoying and will continue to enjoy the fruits of his labors.

Unfortunately, John's name no longer is in evidence at what was once Van Assen Park: East Bay Municipal Utility District has taken over management of the park from the county and promptly removed his name from the park.

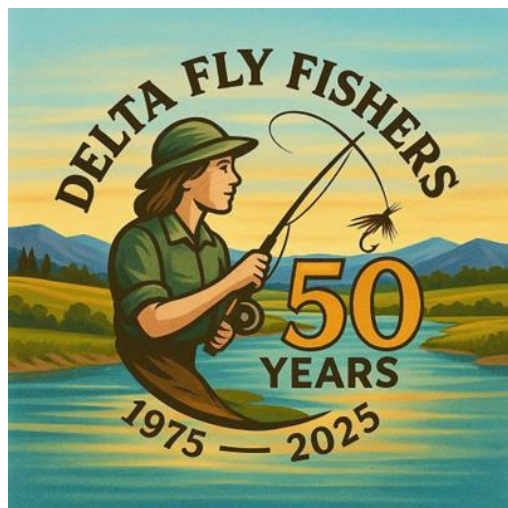


Wulffies -- supporting womens' angling near and far

By Amy Terra

Dena Mason and I just returned from a long drive over this past weekend to help teach at Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation first (hopefully annual) Women's Fly

Fishing Academy. Held at a summer camp outside of Oakhurst, the academy sold out all 20 participant slots in less than two days. Participants received a



rod/reel/line/leader combo, a fly box, a Fresno club hat, a year's membership in their club and four classes consisting of gear, flies/flytying, knots and casting. Dena and I taught the casting. Breakfast and lunch was also provided. After the classes and a group picture, participants were welcome to stay and fish the pond filled with hungry trout.

It was amazing for Dena and I to help introduce 20 female anglers to fly fishing. They were eager learners and we were delighted with the level of skill and confidence that they had at the end of the day. It was a weekend well spent and inspiring to Dena and I to try and look for a way to duplicate this experience for DFF members of all genders. We get numerous inquiries about people who are fly-curious but we do not have a consistent resource to introduce fly fishing,



The academy's volunteers and participants.

The space we had for the Fly Fishing Academy.

Dena and I were inspired by the organization and smoothness of the day. We are looking for a place/space with some fishy waters to do something similar. It doesn't have to be trout. When you are new to fly fishing, a fish is a fish. Reach out to us if you have any ideas of a space we can use/rent to hold a similar academy that we would love to be open to everyone.

For our own Wulffies, we have our Bridgeport outing October 5-8 th with all 4 guided slots booked. The club is holding a Mammoth outing the same week and I am planning on heading south to fish with the guides in the Mammoth area after our Bridgeport stint.

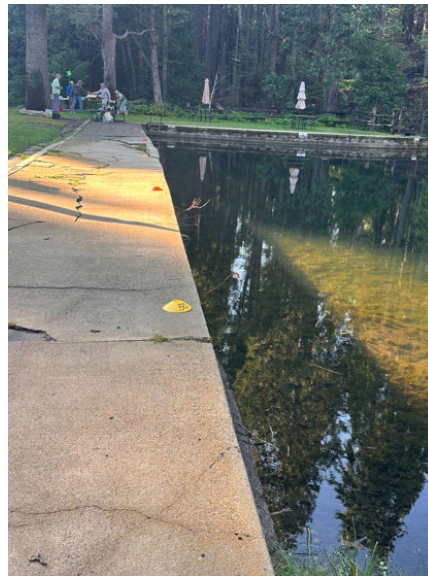
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Contact **Bill Brown** for more information about the Mammoth opportunities.

For September, we will likely have pop up outings and these will be communicated through **Mary Midget's** text thread. I am hoping to fish the Merced out of the El Portal area. If you want to split a guide, hit me up. I have been fishing the Yosemite area more lately as I am participating in a citizen scientist program (see the article below).

November and December activities for the Wulffies will be fly tying focused so stay tuned!



The space we had for the Fly Fishing Academy

O'Neill Forebay – Striped Bass Fly Fishing Outing

By Bob Fujimura

We'll have outing to O'Neill Forebay Reservoir near Los Banos to fly fishing striped bass within the State Park facilities. It is one of the watercraft friendly waters to target striped bass in our area. In the fall, O'Neill Forebay Reservoir can be a good fly fishery for small striped bass although record size striped bass have been caught by fly fishers here in the past. We will meet on Saturday morning of November 7th at 7 AM in the parking lot at the park entrance. Park day use fee will be \$12 per vehicle and a watercraft inspection is required by park staff. More information on the lake can be found on San Luis State Recreation Area website: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=558. The reservoir is about a 70 minute drive from Stockton. There are several State campgrounds and lodging options nearby in either Los Banos or Santa Nella.

Participants should bring a personal watercraft, personal floatation device (required), anchor and line, and an emergency signaling device. A 7 or 8 weight, 9 foot rod with a matching intermediate and fast sinking lines are recommended to fish clousers and streamers. Bring a floating line and poppers or crease flies if you are interested in surface action. This outing is appropriate for fly fishers who are familiar with casting sinking lines and fishing from watercraft.

After we complete our watercraft inspections, we will drive to the launching location and set up our boats and fishing gear. We'll have coffee and light breakfast pastries in the morning and hot lunch at noon. Contact Bob Fujimura (email: deltaflyfishers@gmail.com; cell: (209) 329-1692) if you are planning to attend; participants must have their signed DFF liability waiver on file. We will show an excellent video from the GGACC fly club on how to fish this water at the Nature Center Classroom, Oak Grove Regional Park, Eight Mile Road, Stockton on October 7 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. Contact Bob on how to enter the Park after hours.



Yosemite's Citizen Science Program

By Amy Terra

On our recent Wulffies Yosemite outing, I spied a flier at a parking lot calling for citizen anglers to contribute to a scientific collection of fish tail fin samples. I took a picture of the flier and did a little dive into the internet's information about Rainbow Trout in Yosemite.

Information on the sampling program.

Here is some info from the website FishBio.com about Rainbow Trout in Yosemite:

The Genetics of Yosemite's Trout — Flashback Friday

Friday July 14, 2023

*In this week's **Flashback Friday**, explore the distant history that lives in the DNA of Yosemite trout.*

It's been over 150 years since the rivers in Yosemite National Park flowed freely to the ocean without interruption by dams and reservoirs. Historically, steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), the ocean-run form of rainbow trout, would have journeyed from the ocean to the snowmelt-fed upper reaches of the Tuolumne and Merced rivers to spawn, and then made their way back downstream, unimpeded by man-made barriers. More than 30 steelhead generations have passed since that time (one generation is about **five years**), and obviously no fish living today has any memory of dam-free trips to sea. But, as a study by researchers from the National Marine Fisheries Service and UC Santa Cruz revealed, even after a century and a half, the ocean-run legacy of Yosemite's rainbow trout lives on in their DNA (**Pearse and Campbell 2018**).

The intriguing history of trout in Yosemite has been heavily influenced by the activities of humans. It's believed that settlers began moving locally captured *O. mykiss* above waterfalls into previously fishless areas in the 1870s, and by 1895, a fish hatchery was operating on the South Fork Merced River. This hatchery and the others that followed

Yosemite Rainbow Trout Tail Fin Sampling for Genetic Analysis

Objective: is to identify populations and locations of the anadromous rainbow trout strain that is indigenous to the Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, which became trapped behind dams. Despite extensive fish stocking, this strain still thrives in various corners of Yosemite National Park.

- 1) Catch Rainbow trout of any size and keep wet in your net until ready to collect the tail fin sample
- 2) Fill out date, location, species, length of fish, your name and any notes on the small envelope



- 3) Working quickly, cut a small corner of the tail fin (about the size of your pinky fingernail) and return the trout to the net submerged in water so it can breathe.



- 4) Place the tail fin sample on a piece of blotting paper and fold over to cover the tail fin sample. The sample will dry out and that is fine as DNA can be later sampled – no special handling is needed.



- 5) Place each tail fin sample on the folded paper into a small brown envelope with the sample collection information filled out on the outside of the envelope.
- 6) Using good catch and release procedures, release the trout back into the water
- 7) Return the collected samples to the coordinator that provided you with the sampling kit. These will be sent to the Aquatic Biologist at Yosemite National Park for genetic analysis.
- 6) Thank you for participating as a "Citizen Scientist"!

Where to Sample for Yosemite Rainbow Trout Tail

Ideally collect 10-15 independent tail fin samples from each stream (but any samples are helpful)

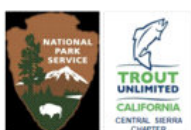
Samples should be collected from streams and lakes that feed into the Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, including but not limited to the following:

North of Yosemite Valley:

Upper North Fork Tuolumne River
Tuolumne River
Upper Clavey River
Reed Creek
Jawbone Creek
Upper Cherry Creek
Tuolumne River- above Early Intake
Tuolumne River- above Preston Falls
Grand Canyon Tuolumne River
Roosevelt Lake

Yosemite Valley and South:

Merced River Ranch
Merced River Hatchery
Grouse Creek
Crane Creek
South Fork Merced River
Yosemite Valley
Snow Creek
Upper Snow Creek



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propagated both *O. mykiss* indigenous to the area as well as strains imported from elsewhere in California. Today, most rainbows stocked in California are **triploid**, meaning they are sterile and cannot contribute their genes to the population, but this wasn't the case until 2013. Over the course of many years of stocking, Yosemite became a melting-pot of trout, and recently molecular tools have provided scientists the opportunity to sort through the genetics of the populations that exist in the area today. Their DNA not only provides insight into the relative contributions of different ancestral populations (such as hatchery strains and fish native to the area), but also contains information on whether these populations have retained the traces of the steelhead life history despite their isolation from the ocean. As it turns out, this migratory ability can persist even in above-dam populations, where the presence of a reservoir can allow for an “adfluvial” life history, in which trout undergo a miniature ocean-run migration by moving from stream to lake and back again.

The study of Yosemite trout revealed that, remarkably, the majority of populations have primarily native ancestry despite the extensive stocking of hatchery trout in the area. Unlike the *O. mykiss* of San Francisco Bay, it does appear indigenous Yosemite trout have a history of interbreeding with hatchery-raised individuals, but there has not been the **complete replacement of**

native genetics like that observed in other heavily stocked regions of California. Even better news is that many of the above-dam populations exhibited genetic markers on the **Omy5 chromosome** that are associated with anadromy (e.g., migration to and from the ocean). This finding has conservation implications because it means that these rainbow trout populations have retained the ability to migrate, and therefore reconnecting *O. mykiss* above barriers with their downstream relatives could potentially help bolster the diversity of steelhead populations.

We've written before about the **numerous factors** that determine whether a fish will remain in rivers as a rainbow trout or travel to the ocean as a steelhead, and historically *O. mykiss* populations throughout Central California would have existed as a mosaic of residents and ocean-run individuals. The steelhead in the Tuolumne and Merced rivers belong to the Central Valley Distinct Population Segment (CV DPS), which is listed as **threatened under the Endangered Species Act** (ESA). Despite being the same species, rainbow trout in these same rivers are not afforded protection under the ESA. However, even providing legal protection for rainbow trout would not single-handedly solve the problems faced by California's *O. mykiss*. One of the main drivers of Central Valley steelhead imperilment is the loss of **80% of their historical spawning area** due to dam construction. Although offering Yosemite trout the opportunity to reach the ocean may help

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bolster steelhead populations, this would only be truly beneficial if more habitat for all *O. mykiss* life stages is made available through restoration efforts. Fisheries conservation is ever a multifaceted and complicated effort, but the spirit of seafaring adventure that lives on in the DNA of

Yosemite's rainbow trout may prove a valuable tool to help recover the species.

And this excerpt from **FISHES OF YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK — Compiled by Willis A. Evans and Orthello L. Wallis (1941, 1948):**

What's Old is New Again

By Amy Terra

At the last June BBQ gathering, a veteran member of Delta Fly Fishers handed me a bag with some old newsletters and informational fliers dating back to the early 80's. I set these on my desk with the intention of going through them when I had a chance. The chance came in the form of a three hour road trip with our fearless leader, **Dena Mason**. I sat in the passenger seat and flipped through old newsletters, reading articles of interest and referring to people and names listed that brought smiles to our faces. What a gift this member has provided by sharing these papers. As we read through the newsletters, we were struck by the common challenges listed, some familiar and unfamiliar outing locations and the amazing humor and fun that permeated the articles. The newsletter oozed with fun and familiarity amongst the membership. As we drove on our adventure, I marked pages and folded corners and kept a list of outing places. It was fun and timely, given this is the 50th anniversary of the club.

Because we had so much fun, we thought it would be great to share bits and pieces from the old newsletters in current newsletters. So look for pieces and parts of articles linked with current related activities. Hopefully this will give a sense of the 50 year tradition of fly fishing, fun and volunteerism our club represents. It is a beautiful

thing that we are all a part of- So hold on to your hats and get ready for a blast from the past!

From Rx Fly Fishing June 1982- Quote of the month dedicated to **Gene Takeuchi** from editor **J.M. Fanucchi**, Editor and self described salami addict:

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play and pray in, where Nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul." (Eric Seaborg in 'The Battle for Hetch Hetchy' printed in Sierra, the Sierra Club Bulletin)

And from **July 1982**, the editorial from John Fanucchi, self described editor and designated hitter, the answer to a question I have wondered about: Why is our newsletter called **Rx Fly Fishing!** ?

"Now as a parting thought: Some of you may wonder at the name of our bulletin- Rx Fly Fishing!- where it came from and what it means. We dreamed it up in a moment of temporary insanity (a common ailment of newsletter editors) and it means that we consider Fly Fishing an activity that will cure all kinds of maladies. We have found that a day of tossing a fly over a stream or pond, away from jangling phones, maddening traffic, creeping crab grass, depressing headlines and a shrinking bank balance, has therapeutic values like you wouldn't believe! A new miracle drug..."

Well said Mr. Fanucchi!

This Month's Fly Box

FLY TYING

Foam Beetle Dry Fly

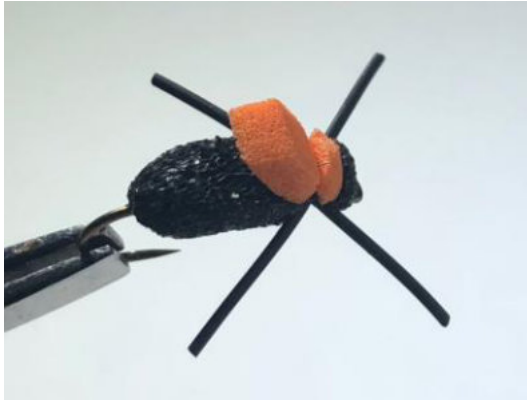


Photo by Flightmaster Fly

By Bob Fujimura

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

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

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

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

Here is McFly anglers materials list:

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

Thread: Veevus 6/0 (black)

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

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

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

Hot Spot: Razor

Foam (yellow)

Head Cement:

Solarez Ultra

Thin UV Resin

Mettler

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



Rx Fly Fishing! Advertising Rates

2 column inches each newsletter issue for the year for \$400 or in-kind goods and services, six months \$200, quarter \$100, one month \$40. The ad may include artwork and will link to the advertiser's website.

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

Included:

A digital subscription to the club's monthly newsletter.

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

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

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.

Scott Sugimoto

(530) 276-1612
scott@ontheriffle.com

Follow me on Instagram:
@ontheriffle



“Make your reservations now!”



Casting Corner

By Amy Terra

Our casting activities continue through the summer months into the fall. The light is leaving us in the evenings earlier but the trade off is the heat is lessening its grip on us little by little. This means our Friday night open casting sessions will be more comfortable temperature wise, but are becoming numbered as we have only the following sessions left:

September 11th

October 16th (note change of date due to Mammoth outing)

As always, our casting night will take place at the field next to Hutchins Street Square Marquee. Look for us on the lawn on the corner of Hutchins and Walnut in Lodi. I will be there from 5pm to 7 pm. This is open casting meaning no sign ups are required but we also cannot predict how many people will attend. If you come, you may get tons of free casting feedback. If lots of participants come, you will get less feedback. Either way, you are guaranteed a fun night with friendly DFFers talking casting, fishing and hanging out. Dena brings cold waters and I have loaner rods available. All that you need to participate is a signed 2026 DFF waiver and eye protection. Hope to see you there! October will be our last free Friday night casting session for 2026.

Also available are the second Saturday free casting lessons in San Francisco. The Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club's (GGACC's) Monthly Free Fly Casting Lessons are open to both Club members and the General Public. These free fly casting lessons are generally held on the 2nd Saturday of each month year-round from 9:30 AM - 12 Noon at the Golden Gate casting ponds. Free loaner equipment is also available on a first come, first served basis, but please try to arrive by 8:45 AM to take advantage of this limited free equipment.

A few points to consider –

These lessons focus on casting single-handed fly rods.

Casting lessons are a "go," rain or shine.

(continued on next page)

Contribute to the club's welfare

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

\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50

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

Cal State Charity # 131478

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

Salmon in the Classroom

I'm in and want to donate
\$5, \$10, \$15, \$25, \$50,
\$75, \$100,

You will automatically receive a receipt, save it for tax purposes

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

You may also participate by mailing a check to:

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

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

Cal State Charity # 131478

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For safety reasons, no flies with hooks are permitted; only "yarn" practice flies are allowed (these practice flies are provided free of charge).

Students are expected to provide and wear their own eye protection (regular glasses, sun glasses, or safety glasses) at all times during the casting lessons.

Classes target four different skill levels (the classes are held concurrently):

Beginner

Novice

Intermediate

Advanced

I am considering a different approach for next year's casting support for our club. We have developed the tradition of kicking off our casting support with our casting day in April and monthly sessions on Friday nights through October. I am considering making specific skill workshops available in addition to these activities. Let me know if you would be interested in skill specific workshops. Specific skills could include accuracy, saltwater skills, bass casting tactics, distance and double haul. Let me know if you would be interested in workshops for these or other casting topics.

Local Water Orientation Clinics

With Greg Vinci

Author and guide

vinci.greg@gmail.com

(916) 719-6253



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Bench Basics —

By Tim Costello

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



Reminder to Sign Up for the Lower Sacramento River Float Trip

By Bob Fujimura

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

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



Our Featured Guest Tyer for 2026

By Bob Fujimura

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

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

2026 Annual Fly-Tying Day presented by Delta Fly Fishers



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

December 5, 2026, 9 AM until 2 PM

Fairfield Inn & Suites, 262 Rocky Lane in Lodi

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



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

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

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

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

CONSERVATION

By Ron Forbes, Conservation Chair

No content submitted this month. Look for a new conservation article in the October issue.

FFI FlyFest 2026



George Daniel is Coming to FlyFest 2026!

FFI FLYFEST 2026

SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2026

REDDING CIVIC AUDITORIUM

REGISTER TODAY!

If you've read *Dynamic Nymphing*, watched one of his presentations, attended a clinic, or followed his work through Team USA and Penn State University, you already know why this announcement matters.

Fly Fishers International is proud to announce that George Daniel will be joining FlyFest 2026 as our Headline Presenter. As one of the most respected educators in fly fishing today, George has helped thousands of anglers become better fishers through his practical, innovative, and highly effective approach to the sport. From competition tactics and trout behavior to modern nymphing, streamer fishing, and fly-fishing strategy, George's ability to teach complex concepts in a way that anglers can immediately apply has made him one of the most sought-after instructors in the world. At FlyFest 2026, you'll have the opportunity to learn directly from George through presentations, demonstrations, workshops, and informal conversations throughout the event. But George Daniel is just one part of the FlyFest experience. Join fly fishers from across our worldwide community for three days dedicated to learning, connection, conservation, and community. Whether you're new to fly fishing or have decades on the water, FlyFest is designed to help you learn something new, meet passionate anglers, and deepen your connection to the sport we all love.

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. If you have been considering attending, now is the time to register.

What You'll Experience

- Indoor & outdoor workshops led by top instructors
- Fly casting and fly tying demonstrations
- Conservation and education sessions for all skill levels
- Connection with a passionate, global fly fishing community

•



A special thank you to our founding sponsors for helping bring FlyFest2026 to life: TheFly Shop, Airflo, Airlite, Ross, Abel, Renzetti, Dyna-King, Textreme, Peak, NETrekkan and California Fly Fisher. We look forward to welcoming the fly fishing community together in the heart of Northern California for three days of learning, connection, inspiration, and celebration. See you in Redding. FlyFest2026 September 24–26, 2026 Redding Civic Auditorium Redding, California

Mark your calendars to save these dates in September for FlyFest...

There are two levels of tickets as noted below...

CHOOSE YOUR FLYFEST EXPERIENCE

EXPERIENCE	ALL-ACCESS EXPERIENCE	STEWARDSHIP VIP EXPERIENCE	CLUB & COUNCIL ALL-ACCESS EXPERIENCE	CLUB & COUNCIL STEWARDSHIP VIP EXPERIENCE	FRIDAY BANQUET & AUCTION
	\$100	\$225	\$100	\$225	\$85
MAIN EVENT ACCESS (SEPTEMBER 25-26)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS	✓	✓	✓	✓	
FLYFEST EXPO	✓	✓	✓	✓	
PARTNER HOTEL DISCOUNT	✓	✓	✓	✓	
FRIDAY BANQUET & AUCTION		✓		✓	✓
INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE		✓		✓	
OFFICIAL 2026 SWAG BAG		✓		✓	
CLUB & COUNCIL DAY (SEPTEMBER 24)			✓	✓	
WELCOME PARTY (SEPTEMBER 24)			✓	✓	

Volunteers Needed for the FlyFest event in Redding

FFI's FlyFest2026 is coming to the Northern California Council. It will be held at the Redding Civic Auditorium on September 24-26. As you might imagine the event will require a significant number of

volunteers to assist in different areas including tying, casting, registration, auctions / raffles, and more. **Can you give 4 hours of your time during this 3-day event?** If so, please **click the link below and sign up to volunteer (before you register...and save \$50).**

<https://flyfishersinternational.wufoo.com/forms/volunteer-form-2026/>

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS

As a thank-you for contributing 4 hours of volunteer time, you may choose one of the following:

Option A: Complimentary day pass for the event. This includes access to FlyFest Expo including, vendors, tiers, demonstrations, one-hour seminars, casting demos, and the FlyCasting Skills Development course. No advance registration is required—simply check in to receive your entry badge. It does not include access to the specialty workshops which may have capacity limits and additional fees. Pre-registration is encouraged if you would like to add these enhanced options to your complementary day pass.

Option B: A \$50 discount toward the pre-registration package of your choice, which includes FlyFest Expo AND a variety of workshops led by world-class instructors. You will receive an email after submitting your information that will provide information about how to pre-register and take advantage of this offer.

Package Options:

VOLUNTEER OFFER: All-Access Experience (2-Day Event - \$100) – \$50 your cost – (net \$50 off)

- Access to all regular and extended presentations, demos, and workshops
- FlyFest Expo access throughout the event
- Partner hotel discount

VOLUNTEER OFFER: Stewardship VIP Experience (2-Day Event - \$225) – \$175 your cost (Net \$50 off)

- Access to all regular and extended presentations, demos, and workshops
- FlyFest Expo access throughout the event
- Partner hotel discount
- Exclusive Industry Roundtable access
- Friday night banquet and auction
- Official FlyFest 2026 swag bag

Pre-registration ensures you receive updates on workshop offerings and gives you the opportunity to secure a spot in those workshops with limited capacity. We are excited to offer these discount options to you and sincerely appreciate your time and effort in helping us create an outstanding event in Redding this year.

Register now and get your ticket now at the FFI website as noted below on the FFI Website

(<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FlyFest>).

One simple registration includes access to all core programming, with optional small-group seminars available for those looking to go deeper. The event includes a community dinner and fundraising auction in support of FFI's mission and conservation efforts.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jessica Atherton – FlyFest Coordinator at

events@flyfishersinternational.org or Rhonda Sellers - FFI Executive Director at

operations@flyfishersinternational.org

Thank you again for your continued support of FFI and the Northern California Council — we look forward to seeing you in Redding for FlyFest 2026!

