

Fly Fishers of Davis<http://www.FlyFishersofDavis.org>

Volume 44 Issue 4

T h e F i s h e r m a n ' s L i n e

**April Meeting, Tuesday April 26, 2016
7:30pm @ Harper Jr. High School
Bill Forward Presents:
“Trout Vision and a Look at UV”**

This month, Tuesday April 26th at Harper Junior High School, the Fly Fishers of Davis will hear from Bill Forward, who will discuss the subject of trout vision, which has lent itself to a great deal of misunderstanding, conjecture and confusion as we will never really know what a trout truthfully sees. Nevertheless, touching upon the topics of the mechanics of light, trout optics, a trout's view (Snell's Window and background light space) and UV light, this program will clarify and arm you with the current knowledge and understanding to help you navigate through this subject that so directly influences fly fishing success.

Bill Forward, with over 65 years experience fishing in the Sierra, is a fly fishing writer, full time resident and fly fishing guide in the moving and stillwaters near Graeagle, CA. As a former biology and physiology instructor, Bill



merges his 32 years of classroom and university teaching experience with his passion/expertise of fly fishing. He has been a featured speaker at the *International Sportsman's Expo* in Sacramento as well as presented numerous programs at the *Fly Fishing Show* in Pasadena and Pleasanton. Predominantly dealing with the technical aspects associated with fly fishing as opposed to destinations, Bill has over twenty-five articles in print to date. Six years ago Bill's enthusiasm for fly fishing stillwater lead to a partnership with TV's host of the *New Fly Fisher*, Phil Rowley in their co-development of the *California Stillwater School*. Bill is currently Sr. Editor of *Sierra Fisherman Magazine*.

THE PREZ SEZ

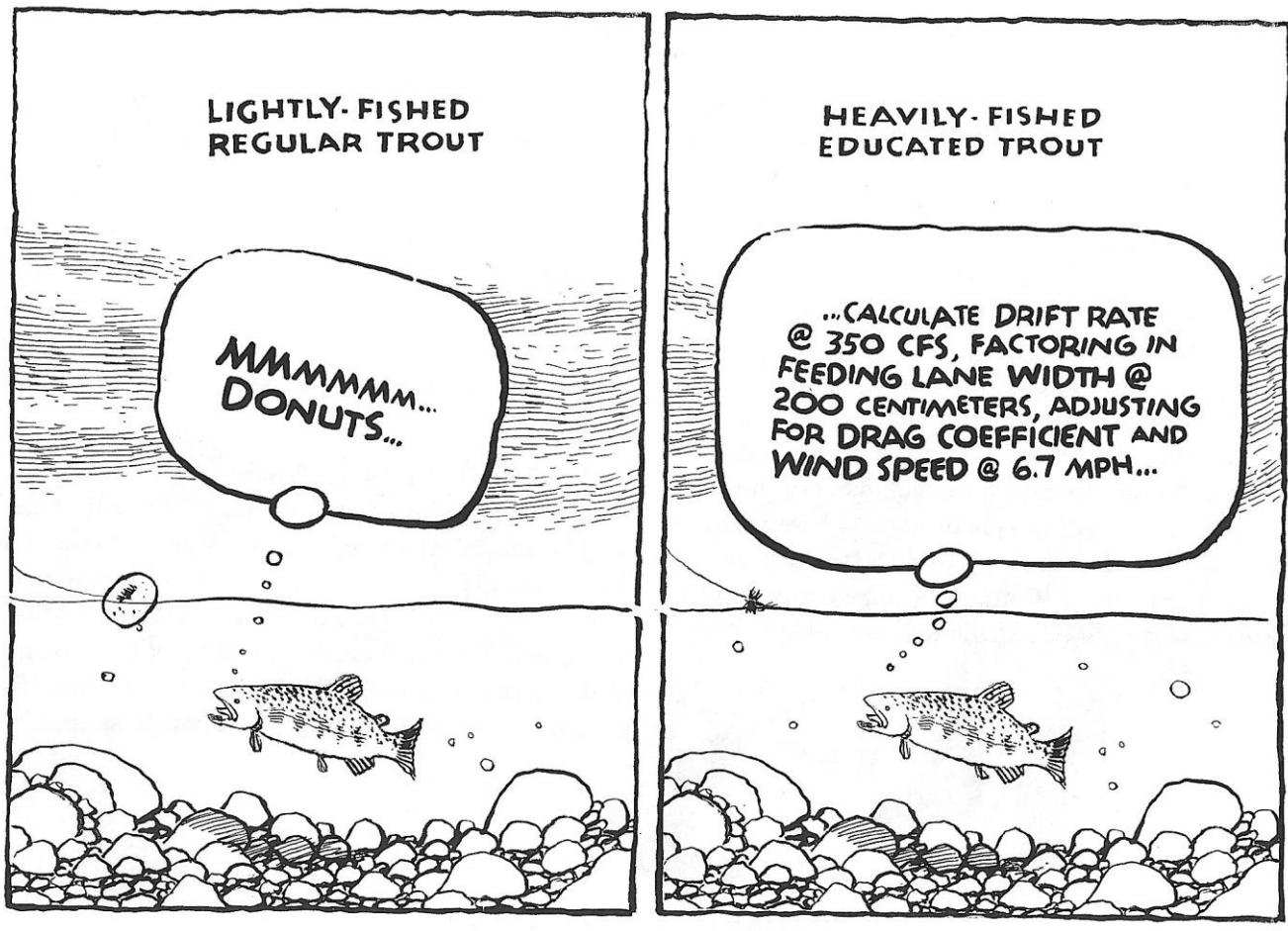
By Dana Hooper

Hello Fly Fishers of Davis,

We have some great activities coming up this next month and a half with the FFD 3rd Annual Bass N Fly Tourney, Hat Creek, and Shad at the end of May. If you have not signed up for an Outing this year and need to know more information about an Outing, please see me at any meeting or call. I would love to fill you in on what you are missing. With Summer on its way and shortly the heat wave make sure you get out on the water before it gets too hot.

Good luck and be Safe

Dana Hooper



MEETING SCHEDULE

The meeting schedule has been tentatively set for the next few months. Kurt Arens is the program chair - let him know if you like the program speakers or if you have ideas for one.

Fly Fishers of Davis 2016 Meeting Schedule			
MONTH	SPEAKER	DATE	TOPIC
April	Bill Forward	April 26, 2016	From a Trout's Perspective
May	John Squires	May 31, 2016	Koktuli River / Pebble Mine
June	FFD Annual Picnic	June 28, 2016	FFD Annual Picnic @ Pioneer Park

*Except where noted, all meetings will take place at Harper Jr. High School

FFD ANNUAL SPRING SWAP MEET



Looking to turn your lightly used Fly Fishing gear or that unused boat into CASH?... or just getting into the sport and looking to expand your fly fishing arsenal or buy that first boat? This event is for you! Bring your items to the FFD Annual Spring Swap Meet April 26 at the Harper Junior High parking lot at 6:00 pm. Show up early to score that great bargain!





*Join Us in
Celebrating the
Opening of
Trout Season*

photo: Val Atkinson

*in Northern
California at
The Fly Shop®*

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH, 2016
10:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

2016 TROUT SEASON OPENING DAY PARTY

The Fly Shop's annual Opening Day Celebration will be on **Friday, April 29th, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm.** – and we'll be celebrating 38 years in business! This is our way of saying thank you to the fly fishing community for their decades of support, and it's also a great opportunity for anglers to get up-to-the-moment fishing conditions and see all the new gear from our manufacturer representatives.

Guests will be treated by **The Fly Shop** to a wonderful lunch with all the trimmings. Our local fly fishing club, **Shasta-Trinity Fly Fishers**, will be serving the meal.

Representatives of all the top fly fishing manufacturing brands will also be in attendance, displaying and demonstrating the newest rods, reels, flies, tackle and accessories for fly fishing.

Dylan Rothwell of Rising Fly Fishing Tools will be here again this year with his laser engraver, doing custom laser engravings on anything aluminum or steel (and some plastics) for a minimal fee of \$10. If you purchase a Rising Tool you can have The Fly Shop logo engraved at no additional charge.

Fly Fishing Federation Hall of Famer, **Hal Janssen** will be on hand to autograph his book, *Stillwater Fly Fishing Secrets*.

Local author **Steven T. Callan** (*The Game Warden's Son*) will be on hand to promote his terrific book featuring the adventures of being a game warden, and sets the groundwork on how the passion to protect our wildlife resources can be inspired in a young person's upbringing.

The Dept. of Fish & Wildlife will also be present.

This year we will again have our staff of tiers on hand to answer questions or demonstrate techniques, in addition to teaching newcomers the basics of how to tie flies.

Be sure to sign up for door prizes when you get here! If you have any questions or need further information, please call **Sandy Watts** at **530-222-3555** or email: sandy@theflyshop.com



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CONSERVATION REPORT

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Conservation Mailing List Want to keep up on conservation issues in between newsletters? Join the FFD Conservation email list at <http://www2.dcn.org/mailman/listinfo/ffd-conservation>.

Drought continues to cover most of California. The graphic below shows the extent of dry conditions that covers all but the northwest corner of the state. Conditions have eased in much of the north state, but extreme to exceptional drought still covers central and southern California. Despite the relatively full streams and reservoirs of the north, the state overall still needs to conserve water.

Speaking of full reservoirs, Shasta, Oroville, and Folsom released water in the past month to leave room for potential inflows as they reached flood-control stage. As water flowed through the delta to the sea, the usual suspects called for increased pumping to send water

south. Senator Feinstein joined in, as I mentioned last month, seemingly unfazed by the constraints on pumping due to the negative flows created in the Old and Middle Rivers that suck fish into the pumps.

Water users complain that the pumping has been limited to protect a “worthless minnow,” but the facts show that pumping has been constrained most recently by the presence of salmon and steelhead smolts in the delta. These fish are currently migrating to the sea as part of their natural life cycle and would be destroyed if pumping is increased. For the salmon, in particular, it’s crucial that all available fish make it to the ocean after two years of mismanaged flows that led to massive die-offs in warm water. Read the full story at [Water Deeply](#).

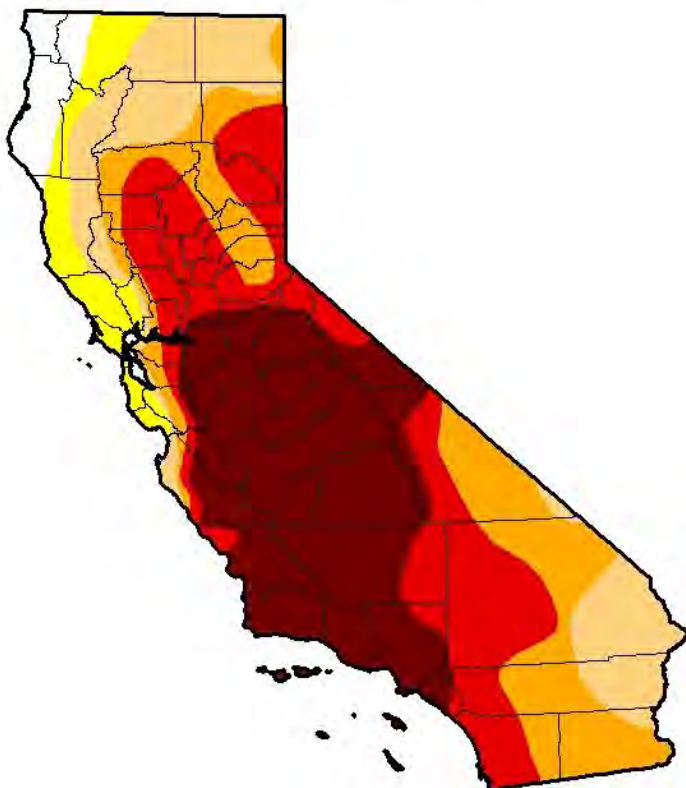
Klamath River On Wednesday, April 6, the parties to the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (including the Northern California Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers) signed an agreement that will allow the removal of the four

U.S. Drought Monitor California

April 12, 2016

(Released Thursday, Apr. 14, 2016)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	3.55	96.45	90.58	74.37	55.25	31.68
Last Week <i>4/5/2016</i>	3.55	96.45	90.58	74.37	55.25	31.68
3 Months Ago <i>1/12/2016</i>	0.00	100.00	97.33	87.55	69.07	42.66
Start of Calendar Year <i>12/29/2015</i>	0.00	100.00	97.33	87.55	69.07	44.84
Start of Water Year <i>9/29/2015</i>	0.14	99.86	97.33	92.36	71.08	46.00
One Year Ago <i>4/14/2015</i>	0.14	99.86	98.11	93.44	66.60	44.32

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Klamath River dams to proceed without federal government assistance. The original agreement depended on congress approving four interlinked agreements and providing funding. The agreement was signed at the Yurok Reservation in Klamath (Del Norte County), with Gov. Jerry Brown joining Oregon Gov. Kate Brown; Interior Secretary Sally Jewell; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency Administrator Kathryn Sullivan; and Stefan Bird, chief executive of Pacific Power, a division of PacifiCorp, which owns the dams. The plan calls for removing the four dams by 2020, the same time-line set by the original pact.

New standards requested A large coalition of conservation, fishing, recreational, and tribal organizations sent letters to the State Water Resources Control Board and to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, urging completion of the Bay Delta's water quality control plan by the end of 2017, and asking the feds to step in should the state fail to do so.

Signatories to the letters include AquAlliance, the Bay Institute, CSPA, C-WIN, Clean Water Action, Environmental Water Caucus, Friends of the SF Estuary, Environment Now, Friends of the River, NRDC, the Nature Conservancy, Planning and Conservation League, Restore the Delta, The Northern California Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, and Trout Unlimited, as well as numerous tribes, fishermen's associations, and conservation organizations. The Fly Fishers of Davis are also included.

The letter points out that the State Water Board is required under federal and state law to review the Bay-Delta's water quality control plan every three years, yet despite worsening conditions, the State Water Board has not updated the water quality standards for the Bay-Delta since 1995.

A key point in the letter states “There is no dispute in the scientific or resource management communities that the current water quality standards are failing to protect fish and wildlife and other beneficial uses of the estuary’s water. The record is strong and clear that insufficient freshwater flows and inadequate water quality are primary drivers of the long-term degradation of ecological conditions for the public trust resources of the Bay-Delta estuary, and this state of affairs is only growing worse. The decline of pelagic organisms that was first detected in the early 2000s has accelerated, with many native fish species at record or near-record low population levels in recent surveys.”

You can read both letters at [Maven’s Notebook](#).

MWD Buys Delta Islands The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California signed a contract earlier this month to purchase 20,000 acres in the delta, including most or all of four islands and part of a fifth. The district has not stated what they plan to do with the

islands but speculation has centered on using them to store “tunnel muck” excavated for building the Twin Tunnels, and for establishing habitat to mitigate destruction due to the tunnel construction. The islands were purchased from a Swiss conglomerate that had planned to use them as reservoirs to store fresh water that could then be shipped south. A legal settlement over that plan put constraints on how they could be used, and delta advocates are now pushing to ensure the constraints follow the land in this purchase. MWD argues that since they don’t plan to use the islands for water storage the constraints should be lifted. Shades of “Chinatown”...

But wait – there’s more! Just a few days ago Food & Water Watch, the Planning and Conservation League, San Joaquin County, Contra Costa County and the Central Delta Water Agency said they plan to file suit against MWD charging that its claim of complete exemption from environmental review for the proposed purchase of Delta islands and farmland is illegal and unjustified. The lawsuit, to be filed in San Joaquin County Superior Court, asks the Court to enjoin MWD from purchasing the property unless and until it completes the environmental review required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

“It’s not surprising that Metropolitan avoided a proper review as the land purchase is not in the interest of Southern California ratepayers and taxpayers,” said Brenna Norton, Senior Organizer for Food & Water Watch. “This purchase would promote Metropolitan’s effort to build the \$67 billion tunnels which will only benefit MWD’s bottom line—while costing Southern Californians billions and not providing one drop of new water.”

The plaintiffs allege that the land purchase by MWD is part of an attempt to take more water from the Delta for MWD use and that the environmental impacts resulting from that activity would be “significant” and outside any exemption from CEQA.

MWD falsely asserts it is only interested in Delta habitat restoration and therefore its actions are exempt from any form of environmental review. Yet MWD’s General Manager, and its own promotional materials, admit that the islands could facilitate building the \$20-67 billion twin tunnels under the Delta by reducing eminent-domain needs and providing a storage place for construction dirt.

The twin tunnel project has no final Environmental Impact Report by the State and no financing plan. Nor have the MWD Board of Directors member agencies approved financing for the project.

“MWD board members need to overturn this illegal decision pressed on them by their general manager,” said Jonas Minton, Water Policy Advisor for the Planning and Conservation League.

See the complete press release at [Maven’s Notebook](#).

Feds Probe Illegal Spending on Tunnels Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) filed a complaint this month questioning how the State of California spent millions of dollars of federal aid meant for improving fish habitat on preparing the Environmental Impact Statement for its controversial Delta Tunnel. Representing a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation employee, PEER's complaint details how a funding agreement with the California Water Resources Department is illegally siphoning off funds that are supposed to benefit fish and wildlife to a project that will principally benefit irrigators.

In support of Twin Tunnels project, the state has received more than \$60 million in grants authorized under the federal Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. The PEER complaint filed on February 19, 2016 charges that –

- Those funds are earmarked for fish habitat improvements but are instead being expended on work that will harm critical habitat for at least five endangered and threatened fish species. Out of millions spent not a dime went to habitat improvements;
- The state double-billed for work it supposedly already did with an earlier \$50 million grant; and
- The state collected all of the federal funds when the agreement was executed, in violation of a 50/50 matching requirement. The Bureau of Reclamation also ignored its own rule barring all the federal money from being expended before receiving the non-federal share. Nor has Water Resources indicated when and from what source it will supply its overdue match.

In a letter dated April 8, 2016, Mary Kendall, Deputy Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Interior acknowledged the IG has opened an investigation based on the PEER complaint.

Investigation into Westlands Water District Last month I wrote about the penalty paid by the Westlands Water District for misleading investors with “a little Enron accounting.” This month Congressman Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael) and several colleagues launched an investigation into the major settlement agreement between Westlands and the federal government (see last month's column). The settlement agreement, currently pending in Congress, would forgive hundreds of millions of dollars owed by Westlands yet lacks key safeguards and assurances that the water district will hold up its side of the bargain.

“The Westlands Water District plays by its own rules, and trusting them with an agreement of this magnitude should give every member of Congress serious pause,” said Rep. Huffman. “Anyone who compares their business tactics to Enron's shouldn't lightly be given a waiver of nearly \$400 million owed to the U.S. Treasury, much less given a permanent water contract or carte blanche to manage the toxic discharge that could drain to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem. We need to know that the Westlands Water District didn't get a sweetheart deal, and that the federal government is working to protect Americans' financial and environmental interests.”

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FFD Outreach: UC Davis Picnic Day

Photos and Thank you by Kathy Keatley Garvey, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

Fly Fishers of Davis adds so much to the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology Picnic Day at Briggs Hall. Thank you



Paul Berliner has quite an addience



Jack Noryln putting the final touches on his fly



Tie me a fly that will catch the big one Bob Brodberg

FFD Outings: Lower Sacramento Drift

Photos by Members



This trout was divine



Springtime on the River





Another nice fish for Sean Barry



Paul Hadley is having a great time?



Family of River Otters at Play



Bill Nelson with a 22" bow



Dan catches the one the Osprey missed



Critters



Doug Falt landed this monster rainbow



Thumbs up!

FFD Outings: Pyramid Lake

Summary by Cary Boyden Picture by Bob Beverlin

The Club's first Pyramid Lake outing in quite some time was held over the weekend of the 14th-17th. Attending were several members relatively new to the lake: Peter Hawes, Ken Lazzaroni and John Taylor. Also along were usual suspects Jim Humphrey, Dave Yarborough, John Imsdahl, Bob Beverlin and the writer (the fishmeister).

The company was wonderful. The weather truly bluebird and very unlike Pyramid. The menu would have challenged Dana's finest. The fishing fit clearly into Shakespeare's characterization of "a tale told by an idiot full of froth and fury, signifying nothing." In what probably added up to 2 full fishing days by 8 people the total netted was 9, with the largest being about 23. On Saturday there were 3 ldrs and no other action. 2 were landed on Thursday late, 6 on Friday and 1 on Sunday, Dave also had some ldrs on Friday it could be noted.

As indicated above, the trip was certainly not without its pluses. And in addition to the ones already mentioned, Sunday's fish was caught by a newbie (Peter) and was the best of the trip. Also John Imsdahl indicated an interest in fishmeistering Pyramid outings in the future, and thus there is a likelihood of regular future get togethers at what is typically a significantly more productive fishery.





UTINGS FFD

2016 - 2017

<u>Trip 2016</u>	<u>Fish</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Fishmeister</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Delta Bass N Fly Tournament	Black Bass	Boat	April 30	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Boater pair with non boater
Hat Creek	Trout		May 13 - 15	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Fly 101 Camping
Sac River Shad	Shad		May 20	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	
Payne Ranch	Smallies		May	John Reynolds	530-753-2682	Day trip
Fuller Lake	Trout		June / July	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722	Day trip
Lake Davis	Trout		June 2 - 5	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
McCloud River	Trout		June 24 & 25	Gene Gnatt	707-451-3262	Camping
Payne Ranch	Smallies		June	John Reynolds	530-753-2682	Day trip
Lewiston Lake	Trout		July 7 - 10	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
Old Fogeys Trip	Trout		September	Bob Brodberg	530-756-9071	Backpacking
Lake Davis	Trout		Sept. 22 - 25	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
Lower Sac Float	Trout		Oct 12 - 15	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	\$192.50 / day (check only) + tip
Pyramid Lake	Trout		TBA			
Striper Fest 2015	Stripers		TBA	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Boater pair with non boater
Luk Lake	Trouth/Bass		December 2 - 3	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	\$120/day (check only) + Rentals
<u>Trip 2017</u>	<u>Fish</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Fishmeister</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Trinity Trip 2017	Steelhead		TBD	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	\$192.50 / day (check only) + tip
Yuba River UCD Property	Trout		TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Limited anglers
Baum Lake	Trout		March	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	
Lower Sac Float	Trout	Guide	April	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	\$192.50 / day (check only) + tip
Pyramid Lake	Trout		April	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056	
Putah Creek	Trout		April	Steve Karr		sk60@putahcreektrout.org

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Treasurer	Paul Berliner	530-753-3886
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	Eric Kapucinski	916-984-6438
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	Dan Kathan	415-713-8952
	Rick Wallinder	916-505-5329
2018	Mark Hansen	530-219-9837
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The Fly Fishers of Davis (FFD) is a non-Profit 501.C.4 charitable organization dedicated to the education, participation, conservation and enhancement of fly fishing. Annual associate and family (member's spouse and children living with named member up to max age 25) membership is \$30 beginning with each calendar year. FFD meets monthly except for the months of July & August. Regular monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except for December and February. December meetings are held the second Tuesday to accommodate holiday schedules. February hosts the Annual Dinner meeting which is scheduled in the latter part of the month based upon facility arrangements.

FFD is an affiliate club of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), an international nonprofit organization, and its Northern California Council (NCCFFF) affiliate.

Meetings and membership are opened to the public.

The Fly Fishers of Davis provide equal opportunity membership without discrimination on sex, race, origin, age or religious orientation.

E-Newsletter Policy

Our policy is to deliver the e-newsletter via email OR you may download it from the FFD website at: <http://www.flyfishersofdavis.org/news1.shtml>

Be sure if you signed up for the \$30 annual membership that you get your email address to Lyn Hooper at membership@flyfishersofdavis.org. This will assure that you get an email notification of the newsletter. Each month, except June & August the e-newsletter will be posted to the above site and emailed about 1 week before the meeting. You will need Acrobat Reader <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> to view the PDF format.

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How to become a member of the Fly Fishers of Davis

Dues for adults and families (member's spouse and children living with named member up to max age 25) are \$30/year. Student rate is \$15/year. The monthly newsletter is distributed by e-mail only. Please be sure to provide a valid e-mail address so that we can get the newsletter to you in Adobe Acrobat format. Drop this form (and a check) in the mail to Fly Fishers of Davis, P.O. Box 525, Davis, CA 95617. Or you can bring the application to the club meetings, which are held at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month.

For more information, contact: Lyn Hooper at membership@flyfishersofdavis.org – **Membership Chair**

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone () _____
 Occupation _____ e-mail: _____
 Fly fishing interest and experience: _____

Our club is only as great as its members, so please **circle one or more** of the following areas where you could share your expertise.
Annual Picnic, Annual Dinner, Guest Speakers, Putah Creek Cleanup, Membership, Budget, Conservation, Newsletter, Communications, Outings, Marketing, Youth Programs, Salmon in the Classroom, Education.
 Please also **circle** if you would like to **teach, assist, or attend** any of our classes in **Rod building, Fly Tying, or Casting.**

For insurance reasons, you must be a current club member to attend any of our outings