

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

Volume 45 Issue 6

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

**June Meeting, Tuesday June 27, 2017  
6:00pm @ Pioneer Park  
Fly Fishers of Davis Annual Picnic**

*T*his month, June 27<sup>th</sup>, the Fly Fishers of Davis will meet at Pioneer Park in Davis for the Annual FFD Picnic. It is a great opportunity to meet other members and their significant others, chat about your summer plans, and of course swap fish stories. We will also announce this year's Addled Angler Award. Check on page 3 of the newsletter to find out what you should bring and how to RSVP. Hope to see you there!



## **THE PREZ SEZ**

**By Paul Berliner**

### **A Picnic with a Twist**

Our June get-together means that it's picnic time once again, folks. This annual event is typically hot and sunny, but there's plenty of shade at Pioneer Park, and plenty of friendship and tall tales. Of course, with chef Dana at the helm, burgers on the menu and a fine array of salads and desserts, we hope that you'll join us (and bring your appetite).

But here's the twist. Our picnic also brings yet another annual event — awaited by many with eager anticipation (and often, a little trepidation). Yes, it's time to announce the winner of our annual “Addled Anglers Award,” and this year, there are many, many fine and worthy contenders.



To join this honorable club, the rules are easy. All you have to do, gentle anglers, is mess up — either in small style or in grand style. Oh, and witnesses are required (to make note of the dubious offense).

Past winners include Darwyn (with his lost keys in the ol' outhouse), Jack Norlyn (and the tale of the thieving trout), Donn Erickson (and his lost and found camera in the wilderness), and of course, Gene Gantt (and his many misadventures in absolutely nowhere, Wyoming). Many of us think that Tom Burton should have won that award instead of Gene, but most of us know that years ago, Tom left a fly rod on the roof of his truck and drove away ... so he gets a pass.

The honor of presenting this year's award goes to last year's winner, so we'll anxiously await this year's recap of all the contenders ... and a new award winner.

Stay tuned! We'll see you at the picnic!

Many thanks,  
Paul

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

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

<b>Fly Fishers of Davis 2017 Meeting Schedule</b>			
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
June		June 27, 2017	Fly Fishers of Davis Annual Picnic
July	Chuck Ragan	July 25, 2017	Foothill Bass
August	Chris Shutes	August 29, 2017	California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
September	Tim Loux	September 26, 2017	Pyramid Truckee Lahontan

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

## **FFD ANNUAL PICNIC** *June 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm at Pioneer Park*

Every June the Fly Fishers of Davis get together and have a picnic, in place of our Club's Monthly Meeting. This year will be the same. Please plan to attend.

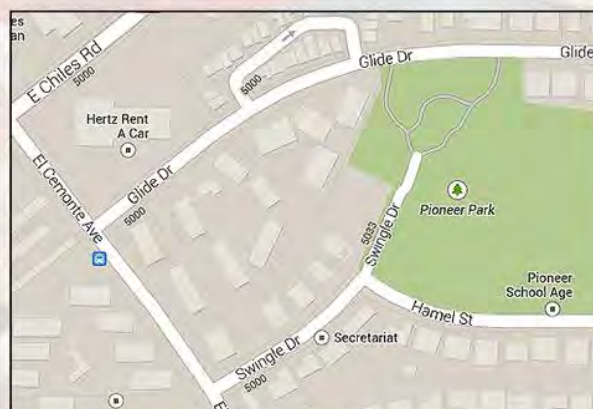
It's not too late to RSVP. Go to <http://evite.me/mhFkjgrEa2> or Email Dana Hooper at [Truthookup1@gmail.com](mailto:Truthookup1@gmail.com)

On Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm we will hold the Fly Fishers of Davis Annual Picnic. **This year the picnic will be held at Pioneer Park in Davis.** Pioneer Park is a nicely shaded park next to Pioneer School, accessible via Swingle Dr.

The Annual Picnic is a great time for families to get together, discuss their summer plans, and of course swap fishing stories.

The Club provides the main dishes which include: hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken breasts. Bring your favorite beverage along with a dish to share using the following guide:

- | <u><b>LAST NAME:</b></u> | <u><b>DISH</b></u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| A - G :                  | Side Dish or Chips |
| H - M:                   | Salads             |
| N - Z :                  | Wonderful Desserts |



**Pioneer Park • 5035 Hamel Street, Davis CA**



Look for an Evite in your email to **RSVP**

## **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>.

**Action Alert!** On June 22, there are two important meetings happening on the Delta:

1. Public meeting at the Walnut Grove Library with Delta Tunnel opponents and Restore the Delta supporters & advocates

2. The vote at the Delta Stewardship Council on Delta Plan amendments that support the Delta Tunnels project

If you cannot attend these meetings, you can sign the petition against the Delta Plan amendments at the Delta Stewardship Council or attend Restore the Delta's next meeting with supporters in Sacramento, planned for the fall of 2017.

**Delta Stewardship Council Meeting - Vote Day** on Delta Plan Amendments (One of the most important meetings to stop the tunnels this year!)

Date: Thursday, June 22nd, 2017 / 9:00 a.m.

Location: Holiday Inn, Fresno/El Dorado/Diablo Rooms, 300 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Restore the Delta Informational & Stop the Tunnels Advocacy Meeting** (Get an update on the Delta Tunnels plan, speak with staff, and get materials & more)

Date: Thursday, June 22nd, 2017 / 6-8pm

Location: Walnut Grove Public Library, 14177 Market St, Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Please RSVP to [Cassie@restorethedelta.org](mailto:Cassie@restorethedelta.org) if you plan on attending so that they have a head count for logistical purposes, or call 209-475-9550 if you have any questions.

**The California State Senate** approved a legislative package at the end of May to preserve California's environment if the Trump administration acts to remove environmental protections. The package includes three bills.

SB 49, The California Environmental Defense Act (de León/Stern), makes current federal clean air, climate, clean water, worker safety, and endangered species standards enforceable under state law, even if the federal government rolls back and weakens those standards. It directs state environmental, public health, and worker safety agencies to take all actions within their authorities to ensure standards in effect and being enforced as of January 2017 remain in effect.

SB 50, The Public Lands Protection Act (Allen), establishes a new state policy to discourage conveyances of federal lands to private developers for resource extraction and directs the State Lands Commission,

which oversees much of the federal lands in the state, to establish a right of first refusal by the state of any federal lands proposed for sale or conveyance to other parties. It ensures (a) that the state reviews any transactions involving federal lands in California to ensure those lands are protected, and (b) where feasible, important lands are protected via state action.

SB 51, The Whistleblower and Public Data Protection Act (Jackson), protects attorneys, engineers, scientists and other professionals working for federal agencies. These professionals are often licensed to practice in California. US EPA attorneys and scientists who report cover ups, destruction of information, or other wrongdoing may have federal whistleblower protection but could still lose their professional certifications under California law. This measure would ensure federal employees do not lose state licensure for revealing violations of law, unethical actions or dangers to public health and safety. It also would direct state environmental and public health agencies to protect any information or data under state law, even if parties in Washington DC order their censorship or destruction.

**The California Current System** along the West Coast of the United States has been found to be persistently highly acidified, with hotspots of pH measurements (a measure of acidity) as low as any oceanic surface waters in the world. The three-year study, published in Scientific Reports (<http://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-017-02777-y>), found there are some refuges of more moderate pH environments that may allow marine organisms to survive.

A team of researchers developed a network of sensors to measure ocean acidification over a three-year period along more than 600 miles of the West Coast. The team observed near-shore pH levels that fell well below the global mean pH of 8.1 for the surface ocean, and reached as low as 7.4 at the most acidified sites, which is among the lowest recorded values ever observed in surface waters.

This finding may be related to the virtual disappearance of bull kelp from the Sonoma and Mendocino counties coastal waters - see

<https://cdfwmarine.wordpress.com/2016/03/30/perfect-storm-decimates-kelp>.

**A coalition** of California fishing, conservation, and environmental groups sent a letter this month to Senators Lisa Murkowski and Maria Cantwell, the Chair and

Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, respectively, outlining their concerns over the nomination of David Bernhardt to serve as Deputy Secretary of Interior.

The coalition letter describes conflict-of-interest concerns about Mr. Bernhardt dating back to 2008 when he served as Interior Solicitor. The groups claim recently revealed documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act reveal that Bernhardt colluded with powerful water districts in California "...to redirect federal appropriations to pay their costs of the quarter of a billion dollar planning effort..." for the controversial Delta Tunnels proposal in California.

Because of this redirection of federal dollars, "The taxpayer gets the bill instead of the water contractors," who were supposed to pay the entire bill for the planning, construction, and operation of the Delta Tunnels project. "Creating this invisible funding mechanism that benefits a few federal water contractors at the expense of the American taxpayer, as well as other Federal and non-Federal water contractors, mandates full disclosure and further investigation. Given the pending nomination, Mr. Bernhardt's role in this deception of Congress, water users and the public requires a full examination."

The coalition also wants a full accounting of Mr. Bernhardt's later activities as a lobbyist for the Westlands Water District.

"From public records and U.S. lobbying reports, Westlands has paid \$1,714,291 to the Brownstein firm, of which Mr. Bernhardt is a partner. This includes the \$189,291 paid to the firm prior to Mr. Bernhardt registering as the Westlands' lobbyist..."

"Before confirming Mr. Bernhardt, as Deputy Secretary of Interior, with jurisdiction over this federal largess, it is critical to understand whether federal laws were broken, twisted or bent while Mr. Bernhardt was Solicitor and again while employed by Westlands. Limited disclosures to date reveal that millions of taxpayer dollars have gone to benefit Westlands that should have been deposited in the Federal Treasury. Before approving this nomination, to be in charge of the Nation's water, minerals and public lands, a comprehensive investigation is required."

**Chinook salmon residing in New Zealand** may return to the McCloud River, if Winnemem Wintu efforts are successful. Hatchery workers exported McCloud salmon to New Zealand a century ago, and they have been thriving there since. The Winnemem Wintu are now making the argument that returning the salmon to the McCloud won't just benefit the tribe, but will support the local ecosystems in multiple ways.

It's common knowledge that salmon need cool water to spawn. But the tribe believes spawning in strong numbers also helps make the water cooler in the first place.

"(Salmon) refresh the groundwater system, they hydrate the whole landscape, the trees, the grasses, everything," said Winnemem Wintu Chief and Spiritual Leader Caleen Sisk. "The way that we're treating water has kind of blocked a whole system of how the earth cools itself."

Sisk said the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation recently agreed to partially fund a project to DNA-test New Zealand salmon as a match for the original McCloud families, which — if the fish do prove to be descendants — would be a first step toward possibly bringing some back to California.

**Partners from state and federal agencies**, conservation organizations, water districts, and farmers commemorated the 20th anniversary of restoration efforts on Butte Creek that have led to a significant recovery of spring-run Chinook salmon. Butte Creek is one of only four Sacramento River tributaries with remaining populations of spring-run Chinook salmon, and resource agencies and environmental groups value Butte Creek as the keystone project in preserving the spring-run.

The Butte Creek Fish Passage Improvement projects are located along 90 miles of the middle reach of Butte Creek, comprising one of the nation's most significant fisheries restoration efforts. In addition to restoring the creek for the benefit of spring-run salmon, these projects also effectively divert water for the benefit of farms, birds and other species along the Pacific Flyway.

When the project began during the drought of the late 1980s, spring-run salmon had dwindled in some years to less than 100 returning adults. Today, as a result of the Butte Creek Fish Passage Improvement projects, in



tandem with a valuable food supply and safe rearing habitat in the Sutter Bypass wetlands, more than 10,000 spring-run salmon return on average to Butte Creek.

“When I was here twenty years ago, there was spirit of hope for California to find a better balance between agriculture, recreation and the environment,” said Bruce Babbitt, Former US Secretary of the Interior. “And today, we celebrate that hope being reality on Butte Creek. Butte Creek is a wonderful example of how innovation and partnerships can lead to real improvements for fish, and there are many lessons we can take from Butte Creek as we address other water challenges in California.”

“The Butte Creek effort is a leading example of how regional leaders are working to re-establish the natural connection between water and the landscape, providing functional and targeted flows that are directly tailored to benefit salmon and other species,” said Ted Trimble, General Manager, Western Canal Water District. “And the results of these efforts are real, they are making a difference.”

**With the latest science** showing that nearly half of California’s native salmon and trout species face extinction in the next 50 years, state agencies have committed to a suite of actions to improve survival rates, including restoring habitat, improving stream flow, removing stream barriers and reintroducing species to ideal habitat.

These actions and more are described in a [Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy](#) released today.

In a recent study, the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences concluded that if present trends continue, nearly 45 percent of the 32 species of the state’s native salmon and trout could be extinct within 50 years. Habitat loss, water diversions, dams, and the warmer temperatures brought on by climate change pose major threats to these species.

Actions in the resiliency strategy aim to reduce specific risks to salmon and steelhead at different stages of their migratory lives. These fish travel hundreds of miles of Central Valley streams and spend several years in the Pacific Ocean, so the strategy targets the freshwater streams where salmon and steelhead eggs hatch, the streams and floodplains where young fish rear, the Delta

channels the fish must travel to reach the ocean, and the many barriers that hinder adult fish returning to spawn in natal streams.

The Strategy focuses special attention on streams that drain to the Sacramento River from Mount Lassen, Mount Shasta, and nearby volcanic peaks. Fed by snowmelt and springs, these streams stay cooler longer than most and offer refuge to winter-run Chinook salmon that evolved to use the spring-fed McCloud and Pit rivers north of Redding. There, icy waters kept eggs and young fish alive through summer. Today winter-run are forced to spawn 30 miles south, below Shasta Dam. In drought years their eggs and newly hatched fish have not survived due to limited cold water reserves behind the dam.

Under the strategy, the State will, among other actions:

- Improve flows in Sacramento River tributaries of Mill, Deer, Antelope, and Butte creeks.
- Complete the Battle Creek Restoration Project, which involves, among other measures, removal of a dam on the south fork.
- Reintroduce winter-run Chinook salmon to Battle Creek and the McCloud River.
- Remove a small rock dam on the Feather River to improve fish passage.
- Restore off-channel rearing habitat in the middle and upper Sacramento River.
- Improve passage of adult salmon through the Sutter and Yolo bypasses, which in some ways mimic natural Sacramento River floodplain.
- Increase the frequency and duration of Yolo Bypass inundation.
- Restore tidal habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Separately, as directed by the Governor, state agencies are working to achieve voluntary settlements among water users along the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and tributaries. The State’s aim is to have water districts that divert from these streams reach agreements that improve flow, stream temperature, and habitat conditions for salmon and steelhead. Such voluntary agreements could serve as a possible mechanism to help implement objectives set by the State Water Resources Control Board, which oversees water rights and water quality.

The Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy



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mirrors the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy developed by the State in 2016 to rapidly improve conditions for an endangered fish species found only in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Salmon Resiliency Strategy relies heavily on the 2014 final recovery plan drafted by the National Marine Fisheries Service, which is responsible for recovery of sea-going fish under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. A two-year update on California EcoRestore, the state's effort to restore Delta wetlands habitat, is available [here](#). The State will take a leadership role in each of the actions described in the strategy, but seek the support and coordination of federal and local agencies.

**State oversight of the Delta tunnels project** may be reduced if water agencies have their way. Talks among Governor Brown's office, state agencies and the water contractors have been under way since May that could lessen the state's hands-on role in one of California's biggest water projects in decades, according to two anonymous sources, one a senior official involved in the project, the other an employee working closely on the project.

Some water district officials said the move, to be done by a group of regional California water agencies in what is called a joint-powers authority, or JPA, would speed up the mega-project, which they say is needed to modernize California's existing north-south water delivery systems.

Critics who oppose the tunnels said the change could allow California's big water districts to cut corners on issues affecting public safety and the environment.

Asked for comment, state spokeswoman Nancy Vogel said Friday that talks were under way between the state Department of Water Resources and the regional water agencies "on the structure of the entity that would design and build WaterFix," which is the name Brown's administration has given the proposed tunnels.

The group of water agencies, which includes the biggest urban and agricultural water suppliers in the United States, has engaged in years of talks on the tunnels, but the current proposal as described by the two people involved would give the agencies a substantially bigger role in shaping the final outcome.

"The water contractors don't believe DWR is capable of delivering a \$15 billion project," said the employee working on the project.

Patricia Schifferle, an environmental consultant who opposes the proposed tunnels, contended the water districts that would get and sell water from the tunnels long have pushed for a more direct role building them.

"It's an outrageous takeover of a public process and public resources," Schifferle said.

This spring, Brown's administration has pushed especially hard for the water districts, which want the tunnels in theory but fear the costs, to commit to a plan for paying for the project so construction can get under way before Brown leaves office next year.

Delta residents have accused the state Department of Water Resources of already delegating too much decision-making to the water contractors that would benefit from them financially.

## **FFD OUTINGS: Shad and Davis Lake**

**Summary By Cary Boyden**

The usually successful shad and Davis trips this year were not up to the usual standards/in the usual format. In the first instance the shad were unaccessible in the high flows, so a shad trip as such was not held. However, we did have a substitute which saw a crew of 6 go to Berryessa at what turned out to be the tail end of a truly wonderful bass fishing Spring. While at the tail end of the good bass/crappie/sunfish fishing, from a numbers, if not fighting quality, perspective this outing was ironically more productive than any shad get together in recent memory. Son took the most on what resembled a twister tail more than a fly, but there were several not far behind in the boated fish count. Presumably next year will see a return to the conventional shad format.

Davis was less productive to say the least. There the total was one grab for Jack; period! Dave Yarborough and Jim Wright fortunately did better at Frenchman before being essentially blown off. This was one of those trips where the fellowship was unquestionably the high point as the winds howled and it was cold and at Davis a complete bust.

It appears that Davis fishing is not likely to improve soon. The stocking program is now for a plant and grow affair following a period of minimal plantings and over limit activities by all too many. As far as future outings to Davis, if and until the DFW policy changes (and there is apparently significant local merchant pressure mounting for a shift to catchables stocking), Davis will not be a venue visited as a Club destination. Short term the September outing will either be cancelled totally or re-located, and members who have signed up will receive updates as the dates are closer.

# FFD OUTINGS: Yuba River UCD Property

Pictures By Sam Yee



Water is high and flows are fast at the Yuba UCD Property



Wayne Wato wonders where his old fishing spot went



Sam Yee is rigged and ready to hit the water



Kris Kordana, Kyle Kordana and Shayne Langford



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# UTINGS FFD

## 2017 - 2018

<u>Trip 2017</u>	<u>Fish</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Fishmeister</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Fuller Lake	Trout		June / July	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722	Day trip
Lewiston Lake	Trout		July 6 - 9	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
Coffee Creek	Trout		July 20-23	Paul Berliner	530-753-3886	Camping
Old Fogeys Trip	Trout		September	Bob Brodberg	530-756-9071	Backpacking
Lake Davis	Trout		September 21-24	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
Lower Sac Float	Trout	Guide	October	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	\$191.25 / day (check only) + tip
Trinity Stealhead Trip	Trout	Guide	November 2-3	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	\$191.25 / day (check only) + tip
Striper Fest 2016	Stripers	Boat	TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Boater pair with non boater
Pyramid Lake	Trout		TBD	John Imsdahl	775-622-3076	
<u>Trip 2018</u>	<u>Fish</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fishmeister</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Luk Lake	Trouth/Bass		TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	\$125/day (check only) + Rentals
Trinity Trip 2017	Steelhead		January 13-14	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	\$191.25 / day (check only) + tip
Baum Lake	Trout		TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	
Lower Sac Float	Trout	Guide	TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	\$191.25 / day (check only) + tip
Pyramid Lake	Trout		TBD	John Imsdahl	775-622-3076	
Putah Creek	Trout		April	Steve Karr		sk60@putahcreektrout.org
Delta Bass N Fly Tournament	Black Bass	Boat	April	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Boater pair with non boater
Hat Creek	Trout		May	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Fly 101 Camping
Sac River Shad	Shad	Boat	May	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Boater paired with non boater
Payne Ranch	Smallies		May	John Reynolds	530-753-2682	Day trip
Yuba River UCD Property	Trout		TBD	Dana Hooper	916-343-9732	Limited anglers
McCloud River	Trout		TBD	Gene Gnatt	707-451-3262	Camping
Lake Davis	Trout		TBD	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping

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**The Fisherman's Line is published by:**  
 The Fly Fishers of Davis  
 P. O. Box 525  
 Davis, California, 95617

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](mailto: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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**Fly Fishers of Davis**  
**PO Box 525**  
**Davis, CA 95617-0525**

**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](mailto: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**