

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

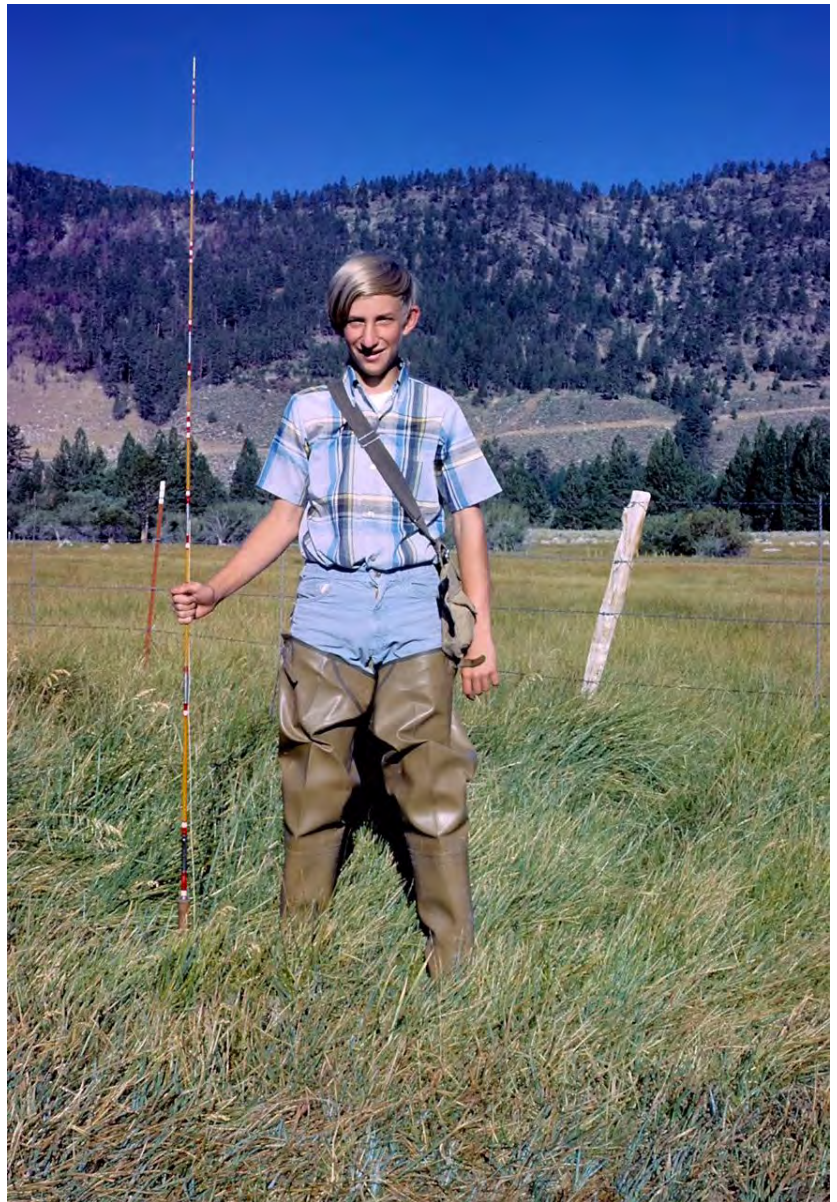
Volume 45 Issue 8

The Fisherman's Line

**August Meeting, Tuesday August 29, 2017
7:00pm @ Harper Jr. High School
Chris Shutes Presents:
“From Angler To Guide To Advocate”**

This month, Tuesday August 29th at Harper Junior High School, the Fly Fishers of Davis will hear from Chris Shutes - a policy advocate for the California Sportsfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA). Chris will talk about how he became involved in critically important local fisheries conservation efforts and policy. Chris will discuss his transition from angler to guide to advocate in addition to how his advocacy work impacts local fisheries we all enjoy from the Delta to the Sierra's and everywhere in between.

Chris is a hydropower program director and water rights advocate for CSPA, a member of both the California and National Hydropower Reform Coalition, and was named 2017's "Restorationist of the Year" by the Salmonid Restoration Foundation. He was hired by CSPA in 2006 after volunteering in proceedings to address fisheries needs for the Eldorado and Upper American River hydroelectric project relicensings. He has been involved in numerous project's since including: the Desabla-Centerville, Yuba-Bear/Drum Spaulding, Merced River, Don Pedro/La Grange, Yuba River Development, Poe, Middle Fork American, McCloud-Pit and Camp Far West Hydroelectric Projects. He remains an active member of many of these project's advisory adaptive management committees to address fishery concerns and water management issues.



THE PREZ SEZ

By Paul Berliner

Film Fest

Hi everyone! By the time this newsletter hits your in-box, we'll be getting very close to an exciting event for Fly Fishers of Davis, for Putah Creek Trout, and for the entire regional fly fishing community. It's our very first film festival!



On Saturday, September 9th, our friends at Orvis have generously allowed us to premiere the newest "Down the Hatch" film as a fundraiser for Putah Creek Trout, and we'll also premiere a short documentary film about Putah Creek itself.

But this family-friendly event is much more than just a movie — we'll have vendors, food, beverages, live music, a casting competition, and something extra-special (hint: prizes!) during the movie's intermission.

Mark your calendars, because seats in the theatre are limited. Here's the scoop:

Date: Saturday, September 9th

Location: Veterans Memorial Courtyard and Theater, Davis

Festival: 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM (Free, open to the public)

Movie: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM (Tickets are \$20)

For more information: <http://flyfishersofdavis.org/downthehatchfilm>

For online ticket sales: <http://ffd.ticketspice.com/orvis-dth-davis>

Proceeds will support Putah Creek Trout restoration projects, and with your generosity, we can make our local trophy wild trout fishery continue to thrive!

We're also looking for a number of volunteers to help out at the event, with a variety of activities. Please contact Tom Robinson, Dana Hooper or me, if you're able to assist — and your help will be greatly appreciated!

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.

Fly Fishers of Davis 2017 Meeting Schedule			
MONTH	SPEAKER	DATE	TOPIC
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 Putah Creek Clean Up Day

Saturday, September 16th, 2017 • Putah Creek, Interdam Reach

The Fly Fishers of Davis will once again sponsor a Putah Creek Clean Up Site on the National Coastal Creek Clean Up Day - Saturday, September 16th in partnership with Steve Karr and Putah Creek Trout. Volunteers will spend the morning collecting garbage, appliances, tires and other illegally dumped waste along the Putah Creek Interdam Reach, from the Monticello Dam to Lake Solano, which is designated Wild Trout water by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Last year 21 volunteers collected over 400 lbs. of garbage. This is a FAMILY FRIENDLY Event!, so it is a great way to get your kids involved also. Going to a clean up on our local water way is a great way to stay involved with the Club and give back to your Community. The Fly Fishers of Davis will host a lunch at the end of the clean up. If interested in participating, please email Tom Robinson at tom.robinson@me.com or sign up at the Outings Table.



Fly Fishers of Davis is now on Facebook! Like Us and Follow Us to get the Latest updates on Club Events and other News.

[Facebook.com/FlyFishersOfDavis](https://www.facebook.com/FlyFishersOfDavis)

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FFD Spey and Switch Rod Clinic
Spey Clinic September 3 at Gristmill Access on the American River

There is 1 spot still available for the 2017 Jeff Putname Spey Clinic.

Those that have worked with Jeff know he is an excellent instructor and presents information in an easily absorbed manner. A fee of \$50 covers the four-hour session lasting from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Sunday September 3, 2017. The fee is a special half price deal for FFD members. Since moving water is important to properly demonstrate and practice spey casts, the clinic will be held at the Gristmill Access on the American River in Rancho Cordova, CA. If needed, directions to the Gristmill Access will be provided. Class size will be limited to 8 participants.

If you are interested, contact Bob Zasoski (530-753-2241, email: rjzasoski@sbcglobal.net)





HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKETS YET ?

Movie Tickets will be available for purchase at the FFD Club Meeting Tuesday, 8/29/17

\$20 cash / check

or email tom.robinson@me.com and reserve yours today!

Raffle prizes include Swag, guided trips, an Orion Cooler, an Orvis Helios Rod, and more. Must be present to win!

Come cast the NEW
HELIOS

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ORVIS | 2017 DOWN THE HATCH

FLY FISHING FILM FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017 • DAVIS, CA • VETERANS MEMORIAL THEATER

The Passing of One of Our Own
ORRIS GIBSON: 1930 - 2017



Orris Gibson was a long-time Member and Officer with the Fly Fishers of Davis Club. His daughter, Sandra Gibson Salazar, remembers that he taught many fly rod building and fly tying classes as she was growing up. Orris passed away on the 23rd of July at age 87.

He lived in Davis since 1960 for 57 years and chose his home just for the soil. He had a profound interest in gardening and kept his neighbors, friends and coworkers stocked with his latest crops year-round. He kept bees and taught anyone interested how to do it, too. He was a fly fishing fanatic and through the 70's and early 80's was a very active member, Secretary and Treasurer of the Fly Fishers of Davis. He would close his office on F Street at night and teach fly tying classes and rod building classes. Graphite rods were new then and it seemed everybody wanted one. Sometimes he even taught at home and sent people home with produce from his garden. He doted over hundreds of African violets and showed them, too. He was known to have containers of various fur and feathers for fly tying always in reach of his favorite chair. That's really the only time he spent in his chair except to read the newspaper.

He peacefully passed away while working under his lemon tree in his front yard garden. Think of him when you're in your garden or on the stream.

Tight lines, Orris!

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>.

The beleaguered delta smelt continues to decline in California, leading some experts to believe it will soon be extinct in the wild. Meanwhile, scientists have successfully cultured delta smelt in captivity, prompting the question of whether releasing these captive-bred delta smelt could offer hope for the endangered species. A workshop held in Davis, California, in May explored how to move from using hatchery delta smelt in experiments to supplementing fish in the wild. The workshop was hosted by the California Department of Water Resources as part of the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy, and followed a previous meeting examining whether delta and longfin smelt extinction was inevitable. The extinction workshop, held in 2016, found a surprising consensus that cultured smelt should be considered part of the species recovery tool box. While hatcheries can be a useful tool, they are not without risks, such as the transfer of pathogens, competition with wild fish, disrupting natural spawning, and reducing reproductive fitness or genetic diversity. Despite these concerns, the recent hatchery workshop concluded that action on this topic is required soon, and discussed potential pathways forward.

The Fish Conservation and Culture Lab operated by the University of California, Davis, has been culturing delta smelt in Byron, California, since 1996. The facility produces about 20,000 delta smelt per year, which are used for studies in a delta smelt refuge program, and in aquaculture, research, and collaborative programs. The director of the culture lab described the great lengths taken to maintain the genetic diversity of this hatchery population, including parentage analysis and pedigree reconstruction to minimize inbreeding. As a result of these efforts, UC Davis researchers have concluded that the captive delta smelt population is currently genetically similar to the wild population. However, the longer we wait to release these fish, the more difficult it will be to maintain this diversity: the smaller the wild population, the more likely reintroduced fish will swamp their genetic diversity. (Read more at [Fishbio](#))

There's a wonderful essay on water "wasted to the sea" [here](#). Before I summarize it, though, some amusing comments that illustrate a profound lack of scientific knowledge by Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA). "Some on the other side of the aisle, they continually talk about global warming, and they continually talk about how the oceans are rising," said Nunes, a Republican. "If you believe the oceans are rising, why would you want more water to

flow out to the ocean? I don't understand that." He was implying that the excess water flowing out to sea from California would exacerbate sea level rise. While he's technically correct, the 46 million acre-feet of water that flowed out the Golden Gate is miniscule compared to the 1 quadrillion acre-feet of water in the oceans. It would raise the ocean by 6 thousandths of an inch. The earth's hydrologic balance ensures that water evaporates from the oceans, precipitates out as rain, and some of it flows back over land to the sea. Sea level rise is far more likely due to melting ice caps and glaciers and expansion due to the water warming.

So with that amusing (if it weren't so frightening that an elected official could be so scientifically ignorant) anecdote, how is water flowing to sea beneficial? In the Delta, water flowing through to the San Francisco Bay keeps saltwater from intruding into agricultural areas and drinking water sources. That same water flowing to sea stimulates migration of salmon and other species that supply food, recreation, and employment, and also allows Delta species, such as various forms of smelt, to thrive. It dilutes urban pollutants that wash into the Bay. River water brings sediment to replenish marshes and mudflats, some of the most biologically productive areas of the bay that are home to numerous shorebirds. Water flowing to sea allows halibut and sole to live in the bay, and has produced a very productive and lucrative Dungeness Crab fishery. It supplies sand to replenish California's beaches. And it creates one of the most productive and beautiful estuaries in the nation. Water is not wasted flowing to sea.

California WaterFix, also known as The Twin Tunnels, reached a milestone last month when the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) certified its environmental analysis. The Notice of Determination and decision documents signed by Acting Director Messer approve WaterFix as the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Only three weeks later, growers in the Westlands Water District balked at the high cost of water from WaterFix as Goldman Sachs announced it would cost as much as \$495 per acre-foot. This is nearly three times what they pay now. Of course, this should not come as news to them, as independent analysts have been warning of the costs for years.

But now the news gets even worse (for the farmers, at least). Independent analysis of the Goldman Sachs report has revealed that GS underestimated the costs. Using a

more realistic estimate of incremental water supply, the cost of water skyrockets. Second, GS assumed wrongly that costs would be shared equally among all users. But 23% of the users would not pay anything, leaving the costs to the rest. The estimated water supply also does not account for adverse environmental impacts and effects of climate change, both of which could require more water to flow out to sea. Finally, the contractors would have to pay for the tunnels even during drought years when they would get little to no supply. It's not clear how high the costs would go, but they start from a level that the users are reluctant to pay.

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) is a comprehensive long-term effort to restore flows to the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to the confluence of Merced River and restore a self-sustaining Chinook salmon fishery in the river while reducing or avoiding adverse water supply impacts from restoration flows.

The first water releases from Friant Dam in support of the SJRRP, called Interim Flows, began October 1, 2009. Restoration Flows began January 1, 2014.

Friant Dam has been managed for flood control since January 4, 2017, precluding the release of Restoration Flows. However, because flood releases into the San Joaquin River are no longer necessary for reservoir management, Restoration Flows resumed.

Restoration Flows within the San Joaquin River Restoration Area resumed on July 21, 2017. This change was effective immediately throughout the system.

Diversions of Restoration Flows are not allowed unless authorized by Reclamation. Restoration Flows are dedicated for preservation and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources pursuant to Water Code section 1707 and are protected under the California Water Code. Restoration Flows shall not be diverted or stored unless otherwise authorized by Reclamation, subject to the conditions of Reclamation's water rights.

Read more about restoring the San Joaquin Valley River at <http://www.restoresjr.net/>.

HR23 would end Trinity River flows to prevent fish disease. Last month I mentioned some of the damaging effects of HR23, the Gaining Responsibility on Water (GROW) Act, introduced by David Valadeo (R-CA). As we examine the bill further, more of its provisions are coming out that would harm Californians to benefit agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley. Among the other harmful provisions, it would preclude releases into the Trinity River to prevent disease in migratory salmon and it would eliminate Humboldt County's right to 50,000 acre-feet of water. In recent years, the release of water from Trinity Lake has been the only way to head off fish kills in the Klamath River below its confluence with the Trinity.

HR23 would also end the effort to restore the San Joaquin River (see above). The restoration program, authorized

by legislation Senator Dianne Feinstein pushed through Congress in 2006 to implement a landmark court settlement, is an effort to work with farmers to re-establish fragments of the river's original floodplain and recharge aquifers, as well as restore native fish, said Rene Henery, California science director for Trout Unlimited, a conservation group.

The House bill would ban the reintroduction of salmon, and "permanently dry up 60 miles of the river," said Doug Obegi, a water lawyer with the Natural Resources Defense Council, which brought the original lawsuit to restore flows below the dam. Unfortunately, this would also curtail one of the few efforts to recharge groundwater in the San Joaquin Valley by running water down the natural channel of the San Joaquin River.

But the bill does even more damage to the rule of law and good government. It overrides the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the state Public Trust obligations. The ESA is the major obstacle to those who wish to ravage the environment for profit, and this bill would explicitly require operation of the state and federal water projects "without regard to the Endangered Species Act of 1973."

The Public Trust Doctrine, a foundation of Western society since ancient Rome, holds that certain things such as a river, or a delta, cannot belong to anyone; they belong to everyone, and the government must manage them for the good of all. HR23 would put the interests of wealthy farmers in the valley ahead of the public's interest in clean, free-flowing rivers and a vibrant estuary in the delta.

Klamath salmon hit low levels The population of Chinook salmon that swims up the Klamath River in the spring once numbered in the hundreds of thousands. Late last month, divers at the Salmon River Cooperative Spring Chinook and Summer Steelhead Population Snorkel Survey only found 110 Spring-run Chinook, which is the second lowest return counted in over 20 years. The Salmon River dive surveys have occurred every year from 1995, and have ranged from 90 to 1,600 adult spring Chinook salmon.

"We knew that fish diseases practically wiped out juvenile populations in recent years," said Nat Pennington, Spring Chinook Specialist with the Salmon River Restoration Council and Board member of Klamath Riverkeeper, "still it's a shockingly low number of spring salmon."

Spring Chinook were once the most prolific fish in the Klamath Basin, with hundreds of thousands of fish returning to the river each year to spawn. They thrived in the headwater streams of the Klamath and Trinity, in tributaries such as the Sprague, Wood and Williamson rivers in Oregon, and the Shasta, Scott, South Fork Trinity and Salmon Rivers of California. Throughout the 20th century however, Spring Chinook suffered precipitous declines due to hydraulic mining, diversions, large canneries, early un-checked harvest, sediment from

road building and logging and especially dams, which blocked the salmon from accessing cold, low gradient rivers in the Upper Klamath Basin that provide some of the best Spring Chinook habitat. The majority of the West Coast's spring Chinook habitat was lost following the construction of dams such as those on the Klamath, Shasta and Trinity Rivers.

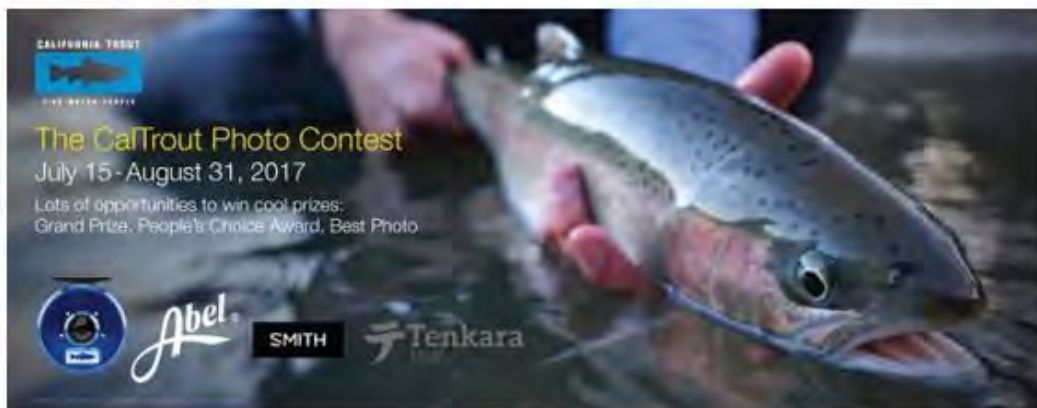
Kenneth Brink, a Karuk tribal member who works with the Tribes' Department of Natural Resources said, "I brought my son Taydin to check out the big Salmon River Survey event for the first time this year. These fish are his future but when we see incredibly low runs like this you worry if there will be any left. This is why we must get the dams out. These are the fish that our grandchildren will enjoy once they can spawn and repopulate in the Upper Klamath basin."

At this year's fish dives, researchers from UC Davis presented evidence that Klamath Spring Chinook salmon are genetically distinct from Fall Chinook. "The years of surveys and sample collection by the Karuk Tribe and the

Salmon River Restoration Council may finally pay off," according to Karuk council member Josh Saxon. "If we can prove to Western scientists what the Karuk People have known since creation, we can finally get federal and state agencies to create a Spring Chinook recovery plan for the Klamath River."

Previous efforts to have Klamath River Spring Chinook added to the Endangered Species list failed because of a lack of genetic evidence that Spring Chinook were genetically distinct from Fall Chinook.

The cooperative annual survey is coordinated by the Salmon River Restoration Council with collaboration from members of local tribes, the Forest Service, NOAA Fisheries, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Watershed Councils and Community Volunteerism. The survey involves teams of counters snorkeling downstream for 3-4 mile stretches and covers over all 80 miles of river in one day. This survey is likely the longest running data set of this kind for salmon in the Pacific Northwest



The 2017 California Trout Photo Contest is now accepting submissions.

California. Beautiful. Bountiful.

Help us share the beauty of our state and its amazing natural resources by entering our annual photo contest. Share your best shots of California's rivers, streams, wild fish, and your angling experiences. And remember to #KeepEmWet. Photos can include fish, anglers or others enjoying California waters, or be more scenic in nature.

Enter today for a chance to be featured on CalTrout's website and in *The Current*, and to win some great gear! Good luck!

[Click to Enter Contest](#)

FFD TRAVELS: Quetico Provincial Park in Canada

Summary and Photos by John Hodgson

My dog and I, John Hodgson, did a canoe fishing trip to Quetico Provincial Park in Canada in June. I borrowed a GoPro and took my own DSLR camera and made a five minute video when I got home. It is a mix of stills and video and has a lot of really good top water smallmouth bass. It captures the good days and good times on the trip pretty well. It was a solo trip so my dog, the bass and the lakes are the stars. It is pretty good entertainment. I hope you like it and get a feel for what a trip like this is like.





Click on the movie click above or paste <https://vimeo.com/225173081> into your browser



UTINGS FFD

2017 - 2018

<u>Trip 2017</u>	<u>Fish</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Fishmeister</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Old Fogeys Trip	Trout		? Sept 11 – 15 ?	Bob Brodberg	530-756-9071	Backpacking
Frenchman Lake	Trout		September 21-24	John Imsdahl	775-622-3076	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	Dan Kathan	415-713-8952	\$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	Dana Kathan	415-713-8952	\$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
Fuller Lake	Trout		June / July	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722	Day trip
Sierra Lake	Trout		June	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping
McCloud River	Trout		June	Gene Gnatt	707-451-3262	Camping
Lewiston Lake	Trout		July 12 - 15	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826	Camping

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Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Paul Berliner	530-753-3886
Vice President	Tom Robinson	530-304-0305
Treasurer	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Secretary	Eric Kapucinski	916-984-6438
DIRECTORS		
2017	Fred Bryner	530-756-4883
	Dan Kathan	415-713-8952
	Rick Wallinder	916-505-5329
2019	Son Chong	
	Peter Hawes	
	Tristan Leong	
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Hospitality	Fred Bryner	530-756-4883
Raffle Chair	Phil Reedy	530-297-7535
Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair		
Youth Programs	Adney Bowker	530-758-2674
Video Library	Eric Kapucinski	916-984-6438

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 The Fly Fishers of Davis
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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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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 – **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