

Prez Says from Bill Rains

On the weekend of May 10 five Club members made a return trip to Sugar Creek Ranch near Callahan in the Scott River Valley. I refer you to the fishing report from Cary for the details.

Preview of the report: it was a great trip!

I want to share with you the fishing lesson I received while on the trip. I stayed at Ron Rabun's house in Dunsmuir. The Sacramento River runs through his backyard. The second morning of our trip we fished the Sacramento with very little success. We returned to his place and while we were cleaning up the debris of two days of fishing he suggested I follow him down to the river. I finished taking off my boots and as I walked through his backyard I could see he had a fish on. It was a hefty 20" rainbow. Ron landed the fish and then told me to watch. He waded across, made one cast and hooked a 20-21" rainbow. I was very, very impressed. I relayed this report to my colleagues and there were various comments like: "Ron's pet fish, he raised them by hand and trained them, etc. However, the reality is that if one knows the river can read the water and combines that with experience and skill the chance for success is greatly enhanced.

My lesson was: go fishing as often as possible.

Experience does make a difference.

– Bill

[Editor's Note: It was the first chance I had to fish the slot behind the house because the water had finally dropped. I only wish Knapp had been there.]

**SEE CARY'S OUTING REPORT on
Outings page.**



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ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER PILOT

Anyone wishing to participate in the pilot of the electronic newsletter, send your email to the editor at ronrabun@snowcrest.net. We are looking to begin piloting the electronic newsletter in September. Additionally, you can submit photos or graphics that can be integrated into the electronic version.

Our approach will be formatting the newsletter to accommodate both printed and electronic publishing. For photos and graphics not fitting into the printed version, the format will have photos and other graphical material attached following the FFD mailing indicia page.

The pilot will not impact your receipt of the printed version.

Please provide your feedback or concerns directly to the Bill Rains, President, or Ron Rabun, Editor.



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The CONSERVATION DESK with Lowell Ashbaugh

The Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers works on behalf of fly fishers everywhere. Here's a letter written by the conservation Chair regarding a recent fish kill on the Calaveras River involving steelhead. The NCCFFF does good work for us. If you're not a Member, you should be. Please send in your dues if you agree.

May 13, 2002

Subject: E.S.A. Enforcement Calaveras River Steelhead

Mr. Michael Aceituno
National Marine Fisheries Service
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Aceituno,

The Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF) represents over 30 affiliated clubs and thousands of anglers in Northern California. Our members are interested not only in fishing, but they are frequently involved in river and stream restoration projects. We are writing to seek confirmation that NMFS will be moving promptly to take enforcement action on the recent fish kill on the Calaveras River.

On or about April 13, 2002 dead fish presumed to be adult steelhead were found in the lower Calaveras River below the Belotta Weir. It is our understanding that carcass samples have been obtained by California Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

This is not the only recent fish kill incident on the Calaveras below New Hogan Dam. As you may recall, we were parties to a complaint filed with the State Water Resources Control Board following a fish kill on the Calaveras that occurred in the spring 2000. At that time DFG confirmed that steelhead and steelhead progeny were among the dead fish found in the Calaveras. In response to this complaint, DFG also issued in writing it's

conclusion that steelhead have been present in the Calaveras River historically and are present today (L. Week 1/25/02).

This situation regarding Calaveras steelhead is particularly alarming as following the most recent fish kill, Stockton East officials were quoted in the press

implying that the dead steelhead were "confused strays". Given these circumstances, your agency's prompt response will be critical in assuring that ESA listed steelhead covered under published 4(d) rules are properly protected as water is diverted from the Calaveras River.

Please let us know what action NMFS is taking in this regard and if there is any way our members can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Robert N. Ferroggiaro
Vice President, Conservation
Federation of Fly Fishers - Northern California Council

This Month's Pattern Streamer

Our approach worked and we had record participation in the fly tying contest. **This month, tie any fresh water streamer pattern.** It will be judged on pattern representation, proportions and quality of tie. Here's your chance to win. Also, we have instituted a policy that a person can only win twice in one year. Submit your patterns.

Monthly Fly Tying Contest
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American Fly Fishing Company
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Tie the Pattern of the Month for a chance to win a \$25 Gift Certificate for American Fly Fishing Company. The patterns submitted will be judged by our esteemed fly tying chairman and selected evaluators. Judging criteria are the pattern tied most closely to the Fly of the Month instructions, fly construction skills and best representation of the pattern. Judges decision will be final. Patterns will be assigned a number and judged anonymously. When you arrive at the meeting, sign in and place a numbered tag on your pattern. Submitters are not eligible to judge.

Thanks to Gary Eblen for this sponsorship.



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From the FFF CLUB WIRE

"A nymph fisherman is, almost literally, a deeper person, someone who sees things that are not there."

William Plummer, Wishing My Father Well.

MESSAGE from Jim Rainey, newly appointed Executive Director, Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF)

You'll read my full introduction in the summer issue of FLY FISHER. But I'll take advantage of Shirley Fulton's offer of some space in the May Club Wire to briefly say hello and solicit your advice.

First and foremost, I'm not much on titles. Just call me Jim. My wife Meg and I are delighted to be members of the FFF team. I am especially appreciative for the opportunity to contribute to the sport of fly fishing, which has been one of my passions since the early 1960s. Members of the Federation have led the way in advancing our sport and protecting the resources that sustain it!

I will need your advice and assistance. The FFF Board of Directors approved a sound Business Plan in December 2001 that contains five Core Challenges:

... Develop a stronger "brand identity" so that FFF is instantly recognized.

... Increase membership, building on the "strength in numbers" rationale behind FFF's founding.

... Develop a larger, more stable funding base to better advance fly fishing.

... Improve working relationships between clubs, councils, and national FFF.

... Develop organizational capacity to accomplish FFF Mission and Core Challenges

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The FFF Executive Committee and I will develop annual ACTION PLANS that articulate:
- the methods and means to meet these challenges and most importantly - to accomplish the FFF mission to LEAD activities that enhance and support the fly fishing experience for all anglers who fish with the artificial fly!

The board charged me to make significant progress in four critical areas that will contribute to meeting these Core Challenges. I must organize and manage the staff so that we will provide outstanding services to members, councils and clubs. I must dramatically increase philanthropic support for FFF programs. Membership must grow significantly. FFF must receive greater public credit and recognition for its contributions to advancing the sport of fly fishing and protecting the resources that sustain it.

Over the first weeks and months of my tenure, I will be looking at all aspects of FFF to determine how best to meet these objectives. I will need your advice and support. Please communicate with me, directly or through your Council leaders. Tell me what you want from your national headquarters, and what collectively we need to do to accomplish our mission. I cannot promise that I will be able to answer each and every letter and email I receive, and I cannot promise that all of your desires will be met. But I do pledge that I will listen to your concerns and ideas, and that they will impact the recommendations I will make to the Board of Directors.

I look forward to a long and fruitful association with you. The great strength of the Federation of Fly Fishers is the volunteer spirit of the membership. Together we can and will accomplish much to advance our sport.

CLUB CALENDAR

----- 2001/2002 MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS -----

All meetings are held at 7:30 p.m., Davis Waste Removal Meeting Room, 2727 2nd Street, Davis (east of Sudwerks) unless otherwise noted.

2002

May 28 th	Homegrown Clinic: Spey Casting, Leaders-Tippetts, Types of Boats AND Gear Swap
June 25 th	Powell Rod Demo and Halibut on the Fly, Ron Vanderheiden, 7pm start.
July 30 th	Annual Picnic, 6 p.m. Davis Park behind the Art Center.
August	No Regular Meeting. Yolo Fair Booth TBA
September 24 th	TBA
October 29 th	TBA
November 26 th	TBA
December 17 th	Home Grown Slide Show Election of 2003 Officers and Directors

Have a program recommendation, contact Ron Rabun at 1-800-FLY-FSHN

----- OUTINGS -----

Fortunately we have another successful outing to report, in this case another of Ron's Sugar Creek ventures. Five stalwart members (it appeared it would snow for a good portion of the day) landed close to 40 fish between 3 and 7 pounds. The hot fly was a #16 blood midge fished either under an indicator or very slowly behind a bead head offering which was largely ignored. Another Sugar Creek/Trout Closer trip is planned for Saturday, November 16th. (w/ Friday the close of trout season)

The annual shad trip with 10 signees goes off on the 24th. The Sacramento will be the destination. Looking forward to June, Davis is already having hatches and the fish are averaging about 17". This obviously bodes well for the mid month trip. With some luck we should have similar luck at Almanor in July. Signups for these two trips as well as a backpack trip and the October Redding outing will be at the May meeting. Twelve members have already signed up for Redding which promises to be a combination steelhead/rainbow opportunity. Cary Boyden, Chairman, 503-753-3826

OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Sacramento/Yuba River	Shad	May 25	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	
Davis Lake	Trout	June 15-16	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	
Summer Trout	Trout	July 13-14	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	
Backpacking/Trout	Trout	July/August	John Forsyth 530-750-1192	
British Columbia	Silver Salmon	August	John Forsyth / Ron Rabun	\$\$\$, 5-7 day trip/lodge
Pleasant Valley/	Trout	August/Sept	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$70 w/ lunch Limit 12
Klamath/Half Pounders	Steelhead	Early Sept	Jim Wirth 530-662-5388	# jet boats spots limited
Upper Sac/Mcloud Rivers	Trout	September 28	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	
Delta/Striper	Stripped Bass	October/Nov	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Sugar Creek Ranch	Trout	November 16	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$130pp w/lunch. Limit 8 6 of 8 slots available.
Amador/Trout	Trout	December	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Bill Rains	530-756-5521
Vice President	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Treasurer	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Secretary	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056
DIRECTORS		
2002	Adney Bowker	
	Bob Percy	530-756-0932
2003	John Hodgson	530-756-8095
	Jerry Pollock	916-682-7798
2004	Tom Burton	
	Tom Vail	
COMMITTEES		
Outings	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826
Conservation	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
Newsletter	Ron Rabun	800-359-3746
NCCFFF	Dave Driscoll	707-446-2671
Programs	Ron Rabun	800-359-3746
Programs	Reed Enos	530-756-2331
Raffle Chair	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	Jim Humphrey	707-678-2149.
Youth	Jim White	530-756-3105.
Video Library	John Forsyth	530-750-1192

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The Fly Fishers of Davis (FFD) is a non-Profit 501.C.3 charitable organization dedicated to the education, participation, conservation and enhancement of fly fishing. Annual associate membership is \$25 beginning with each calendar year. FFD meets monthly except for the month of August. Regular monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except for December and January. December meetings are held the second Tuesday to accommodate holiday schedules. January 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.

Fly Fishers of Davis
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