

Prez Says from Bill Rains

Recent decisions to close various fisheries along the West Coast has created a storm of controversy among state and federal agencies, sport fishing groups and commercial fishers. The economic and political pressures have been great and have led to questionable decisions on regulation. One of the standard responses has been to go species by species and area by area in regulating the taking of fish. This approach has proven to be less disruptive of the economic well being of the commercial fisheries and was the path of least resistance. A recent article in Nature (Oct. 17, 2002) demonstrated the fallacy of this approach. A series of studies have shown that the restriction of fishing in a particular area or restriction in taking a specific species did not guarantee the recovery of the fishery. The interaction of the food web with the multiple species in a particular ecosystem was critical to recovery of a specific species. The study showed that continuing to fish for other species in an area was detrimental to the recovery of the target species. An example of the collapse and non-renewal is the cod fishery on the Grand Banks. The continued fishing of other species in this area has led to a virtual halt to recovery of the cod fishery as well as decline of other species. One promising approach was to create reserves with no fishing allowed. These areas provided a safe haven and food source for the surrounding area. The decision to place an entire region under no fishing restrictions will be difficult and economically damaging to both commercial and sport fisheries, however, the alternative could be the loss of entire species

MEETING NOTICE

Please Note

**DECEMBER's MEETING is on
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17th due
to the holidays.**

FFD Elections

December 17th , 2002 Meeting.

Our annual elections will be held in December. Here's the nominations for officer and board positions. Additional nominations may be made at the November Meeting.

President :	John Forsyth
Vice-President:	Reed Enos
Treasurer:	Lowell Ashbaugh
Secretary:	Jon Knapp
Director thru 2005:	Adney Bowker
Director thru 2005:	Dennis Ralston

Putah Creek Cleanup Saturday, December 7th

Pampermeisters:

John Reynolds and Tom Burton

Mark your calendars. The Fly Fishers of Davis will, again, conduct the annual Putah Creek Clean-up. We will meet at Fishing Access #4 at 9 AM and fan out with trash bags in hand concentrating on the reach between Lake Solano and Monticello Dam. With a little luck (and arm twisting) Tom Burton will man the BBQ. Last year's event was highlighted by 2 volunteers from the Bay Area. This year we hope to see a contingent from the Putah Creek Council. The club will provide some (minimal) fixins' so don't hesitate to bring something for the grill.

Any additional questions can be directed to John Reynolds (530-753-2682. Note Rain date: December 14, 2002.

**Kiene's
fly shop**



2654 Marconi Avenue
Sacramento, California
Toll Free: 800/4000-FLY
Phone: 916/486-9958
Fax: 916/486-2611

www.kiene.com

Monthly Fly Tying Contest

Sponsored by

American Fly Fishing Company

3523 Fair Oaks Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95864

916-483-1222 800-410-1222

www.americanfly.com

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.

THIS MONTH'S PATTERN

The Partridge and Orange Soft Hackle



The soft hackle fly is tied to imitate insects changing from a larva or pupa to a winged adult. It is an easy fly to tie and an effective pattern. Color combinations for an emerger can be adjusted to imitate the hatch on any stream. Orange, yellow, and green are effective colors for this pattern and soft hackle other than partridge can be substituted. Different hook weights will allow you to fish this fly deeper of in the surface film.

Hook: Heavy, standard or light wire in standard lengths. Size 18-10.

Thread: To match body, orange in this case, 6/0 or 8/0.

Body: Orange floss, an optional silver wire rib can be used to reinforce the body and provide segmentation.

Thorax: Dark dubbing.

Hackle: Partridge flank.

Tying Instructions:

Tie in the orange thread and wrap down the silver wire rib (optional) tie in the orange floss and wrap a tapered body about 2/3 the way up the shank. (Light colored floss may need a light colored under-wrap to avoid changing color when wet. Silver tinsel also works to maintain the lighter color.) Rib the body by counter wrapping the wire in even segments up to the 2/3 point. Floss has a tendency to move to the back of the hook unless it is wound forward at a fairly steep angle. Wire will help to keep the body from migrating to the rear. At the 2/3 point, dub a thorax leaving sufficient room to tie in and wrap a hackle plus a thread head. The partridge hackle should be sparse. Striping one side of the feather will produce a sparser fly. Tie in the tip first and wind the hackle forward. You may want to project the hackle tip back over the thorax to provide indications of wing pads. This saves on having to trim the hackle after tying in the feather and reduces buildup of the head. Finish the head with half hitches or a whip finish and apply head cement.

Hen hackle is an alternative soft hackle. The hackle feather can be tied in either by the tip and wound as described above or the hackle can be tied in by the stem and wound by grasping the tip. If this tie is too simple, you can add a head by wrapping a small ostrich feather head- just for fun.

DECEMBER'S PATTERN - PURPLE PERIL

Salmon Fly, Size 8, 6 or 4 , so get started early

-- Bob Z



2060 A Harbison Drive, Vacaville California 95687

Phone: 707.446.0760 Fax: 707.446.1206

www.flyfishunlimited.com

From the CONSERVATION DESK **By Lowell Ashbaugh**

Adopt-a-Reach: I'm looking into a program that the Putah Creek Council is advocating called Adopt-a-Reach. FFD has informally adopted the section of Putah Creek between Monticello Dam and Lake Solano. Each year we sponsor a cleanup, and we've added spawning gravel to this reach in past years. I'd like to hear from club members to find out how much interest there is in formally adopting this (or another) section of Putah Creek. If we do so, I'd anticipate an occasional work day to improve fish habitat. The PCC is looking into bank restoration on a tributary to the upper Putah Creek that is critical to spawning fish. See me at the monthly meeting or email me at Ashbaugh@ucdavis.edu or to give me your thoughts on this.

Putah Creek Cleanup: The annual Putah Creek Cleanup will be held on December 7 this year, with a rain date of December 14. This is a fun family event and you'll be rewarded with a BBQ lunch after the morning workout. Tom Burton has agreed to be the weenie-meister again this year, so the lunch will be awesome! It's always a mystery to me how such items as window air conditioners, auto chassis, bed frames, and other debris makes it to the creek bank. Less mysterious, but equally damaging to the creek environment, is the mountain of trash we clean up each year. Come out and help – you'll find a lot of camaraderie and I guarantee a good time.

Conservation News from **NCCFFF**

DFG Draft Strategic Plan for Trout Management - NCCFFF recently received a copy of the long-awaited draft Strategic Plan for Trout Management, along with a request for our input. Rob Ferroggiaro will be working on this with Mondy Lariz who has offered to draft and submit comments on behalf of the Council. We are in the process of reviewing the plan, and will be scheduling a face-to-face meeting with DFG staff. We are exploring ways we might coordinate our efforts with TU and Cal Trout, since this is a unique and important opportunity to positively influence the future of wild trout in California.

In our comments, we intend to highlight the imbalance of fund allocation between wild trout management and the hatchery program, and the resulting impact on wild trout. Historically, spending on the hatchery program has been more than 10 times the spending on wild trout. Of 33 designated Wild Trout river segments, only 19 have a completed management plan as required. Of these 19 plans, 13 are 15-22 years old. Of course, research and monitoring efforts are inadequate as well.

Public comments are invited. You can view the plan and make comments via an email link at the DFG web site <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/>

Pit River License Update - As previously reported, the process to renew the FERC license for Pit 3, 4, and 5 is underway. The conditions in this new license will affect this important trout fishery for decades. As a result, we want to make sure that the new license includes the best possible operating conditions for the long-term health of the river. NCCFFF has been a formal intervener in the process.

During a comment period, which ended in October, we submitted a comment letter on the Pit License to FERC with copies to over 125 interested parties. Our letter highlighted the importance of the river as a trout habitat and urged several specific action steps to insure the health of the river including the need for increased minimum flows during the summer months, and spring "flushing" flows to create healthier habitat. In addition we highlighted concerns regarding any large peaking flows during periods of the year when flows on the river have been historically stable. Such flows risk negative impact on the river, and eliminate angling opportunities during the time of year when we are legally permitted to fish. We urged that the data from recent studies be carefully considered in determining the final operating conditions.

DFG and the Forest Service also filed comments on the license. The Forest Service comments took the form of draft 4(e) rules that define their proposed future conditions. We are in the process of reviewing these draft 4(e) rules and intend to file comments on these during an open comment period that expires on December 2nd. Future comment opportunities will be available as part of the NEPA process, so stay tuned.

Finally, I recently participated in a telephone conference with the Pit River Collaborative team. The team is currently evaluating potential next steps in light of the current aggressive license schedule. Both Cal Trout and TU also have members on this team.

Klamath Update - The dead fish count has risen past 30,000 fish. Earth Justice is pursuing legal action. DFG Region 1 has taken a strong public position criticizing Interior's flow policies and calling for more releases. DFG in Sacramento and the governor's office have both been quiet on the subject, however. On the plus side, Mary Nichols, Secretary for Water Resources for California, has sent a strongly worded letter to the Interior Department carefully outlining recommendations to address the issue. NCCFFF sent a letter to Gail Norton endorsing the concerns and recommendations in the Nichols letter. In addition, Nathan Joyner made phone calls to various agencies, including the Interior

Department where he spoke with a relatively high level official. No promises were made, of course, but this is all part of the effort to keep the heat on.

Opportunity to Reduce Ag Pollution - According to the U.S. EPA, over 500 miles of rivers and streams in the Central Valley, including the Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta, are seriously polluted by agricultural run-off. The California Office of Pesticide Regulation detected pesticides in 96% of the 133 aquatic locations they tested in the Central Valley. More than half of these sites exceeded safe levels for aquatic life and drinking water consumption. This pollution seriously impacts the estuary's food web and limits the productivity of Central Valley populations of salmon, steelhead, striped bass, and sturgeon while increasing the pollutants carried by the estuary's fish.

In addition to mercury, elevated levels of selenium, arsenic, PCB's, pesticides and herbicides were found in many fish species.

Unlike other businesses in California, agricultural operations discharge polluted run-off because they've been able to secure exemptions to the federal Clean Water Act and the state's Porter Cologne Act through waivers on discharges that are believed not to pose a threat to the environment. These waivers expire this January. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) has the opportunity to propose a new regulatory program for the 25,000 Central Valley farmers they have exempted from the law.

On behalf of the NCCFFF and the Striped Bass Committee, Mike McKenzie has submitted a letter to the CVRWQCB urging them to address this serious pollution problem by terminating the agricultural waivers, and recommending associated necessary reforms. Thanks to Mike, and thanks to the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance for jumping into this issue.

Heritage Trout Legislation Signed - Governor Davis signed AB 2013, which authorizes the Heritage Trout Program, a fisheries protection program developed by DFG and championed by Cal Trout. As a state law, the program will be more than just a DFG policy, and it should facilitate implementation of funding and adequate management resources to protect this valuable fish species.



SIGN UP FOR THE e-NEWSLETTER.
Send your email address to the editor at
ronrabun@snowcrest.net.

E-Newsletter Special Prize Drawing

Take advantage of the club's e-Newsletter's startup savings during the first three inaugural issues. Sign-up to receive the e-Newsletter in lieu of the paper version and earn a drawing ticket for each month of substitution between now and the Annual Dinner. [Nov-Jan].

Two special prizes will be awarded for participation in this effort before the dues structure changes. Prizes will be based upon the number of participants and club savings. For every e-Subscription and monthly e-newsletter sent in lieu of a mailed paper version, \$1 will be placed in the prize kitty. Each month, our editor will place a ticket with the e-subscribers postal mailing label into the drawing. So it is possible to have three chances to win.

If you wish to participate, notify Editor, Ron Rabun via email to enter. Present, e-subscribers will be automatically converted to an e-subscriber unless otherwise notified.

Drawing to be held at the Annual Dinner.
[do not need to be present to win]

[Reminder: The Board approved a dues structure change beginning January 1, 2003 where dues are \$25 annually if you receive the e-Newsletter exclusively OR \$35 to receive you a hard copy paper version via postal mail.

.....
Background: Budget and expense analysis found that nearly \$19 of the annual dues was going toward the newsletter printing and mailing costs including sponsors and other club newsletter exchanges. Therefore, it was decided to change the dues structure and accommodate distribution using e-mail where possible. Sponsors continue and club exchanges only continue within the local area. All others are now referred to our website.]

Casting a Spell: Winslow Homer, Artist and Angler, Exhibition, Legion of Honor, San Francisco

December 7, 2002—February 9, 2003



Stink Bait Rules

Saturday, November 2, saw clubsters converge on Frank's Tract for another round of combat with the delta's monster stripers. We had a great breakfast at . . . well it sure wasn't Wally's. Then proceeded to Sugar Barge where teams assembled and boats were launched. After much coaxing Jerry Pollock got his ship started and we cast off. Jerry's son Nathan and his buddy John rounded out the crew. Somewhat dubious of the youngsters tactics, my fears were quickly confirmed as the 2 youth proceeded to administer a fish catching lesson using anchovies for bait and little, stubby telephone poles for fishing rods. They were IMMEDIATELY into fish, though all seemed to be dinks. They easily outfished the fly-guy by 3:1. Most fish in our boat were caught along the north end of the tract near False River (???), along the breaks where the tidal current was most pronounced. As the tide turned and we headed for the marina. Bob Z. landed a very respectable steelhead. Rumor had it that Larry Pleau actually caught 3 nice fish. With the perfect weather, good company and regular action it made for very enjoyable day. Most of the group ended the day at Maria's in Rio Vista where we snarfed down a fabulous Mexican gut bomb. (Bob's plate of fajitas just wouldn't stop hissing.) Special thanks to Jerry Pollock for hauling my b*tt around all day and Jim Humphrey for coordinating another great outing.

John Reynolds

From the FFF Club Wire

THE FLY FISHER'S CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

(The following originally appeared in the September, 1983 Fly Fisherman and is reprinted here with permission.)

Class 1: Has some fly equipment in his (or her, and that is the last time I'll say or her) and has fished with it.

Class 2: Usually fishes with flies; has taken fish with two of these: poppers, streamers, nymphs, dry flies. Belongs to a fly fishing

organization. Is on the mailing lists of lots of tackle mail-order houses.

Class 3: Has taken fish on flies he tied. Can tie a nail knot on the first try. Can tell species of fish from one another and can identify a mayfly from a caddisfly from a stonefly. Has fallen in a river or a lake.

Class 4: Fishes with fly only wherever possible and is pretty snobbish about it. Most of the flies he uses are ones he tied. Has fishing library of 20 books. Has given advice (helpful) to other fly fisherman. Owns a split cane rod. Has had a hook in him.

Class 5: Can double haul. Has built a fly rod from a blank. Can tie most salt- and freshwater patterns. Dyes feathers. Has fishing library of 40 books and has read them. Usually fishes barbless. Hones his hook points. Knows Lefty Kreh and Ernie Schwiebert on sight.

Class 6: Can identify 10 species of fish and 10 aquatic insects by their Latin names. Has caught a five-pound fish on a 5X tippet. Has tied a thousand flies and released a thousand fish. Has been a director of a fly fishing club. Can cast 100 feet with a 5-weight line. Can spot a rise in white water.

Class 7: Has lost most of his snobbery. Can roll cast 35 feet. Has caught most of these fish on flies: tarpon, bonefish, Arctic char, steelhead, smallmouth bass, Chinook, grayling. Owns a Jim Payne rod or equal. Uses a line dryer.

Class 8: Has built a bamboo rod from the cane culm. Has published articles or given lectures on fly fishing. Can tie classic feather wing Atlantic salmon patterns. Can tie flies without a vise and cast without a rod.

Class 9 (World): Has fished most of these rivers: Tongariro, Gacka, Chimehuin, Test, Laxa I Aldadal, Kulik, Alta, Restigouche, Spey. Has written, or edited, or done an introduction for a book about fly fishing. Has caught a 20-pound fish on a #20 hook. A fly pattern that he originated is in general use.

Class 10: Ernie Schwiebert and Lefty Kreh know him on sight.

(from "Introduction to Fly Fishing" by Judy Lehmberg)

CLUB CALENDAR

----- 2002/2003 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

November 26th Fly Fishing the Feather River System with Andrew Harris
(2003 Officers and Director Nominations)

PUTAH CREEK CLEANUP – Saturday, December 7th, 14th is rain date. Contact John Reynolds

December 17th Bonefishing Los Roques, Venezuela by Shane Kohlbeck, Fly Shop Redding
FFD Officers and Board Election

2003

(plan for these tentatively scheduled dates)

January 28th Home Grown Program, Slides and Tackle swap.

February 22nd (Saturday) Annual Dinner, Davis Senior Center. 6 pm. Dinner served at 7 pm.

March 25th Fly Fishing the Amazon with the Ron English Family (tentative).

April 29th TBA

May 27th TBA

----- OUTINGS -----

There have been three outings since last month. Ron's of the 16th is reported on elsewhere. On October 19 we had a very successful trip with the Fly Shop guides on the Sacramento. Fishing with glo bugs and stone flies behind indicators, club members landed numerous adult steelies and more half-pounders and trout. Unfortunately the striper outing was not as successful with attendees catching numerous but small fish. The days highlights included Bob Z's steelhead on a clouser type offering and Larry Pleau's several stripers.

Looking forward to next year, we plan about 20 outings and will have the initial tentative schedule in next month's letter. Of more immediate concern, we have an outing set for Thursday, February 6 on the Trinity for winter steelies with the Fly Shop guides. Sorry about the date but that was the best we could do because of the popularity of these floats. The trip will be limited to the first 8 who sign up reflecting that we cannot get additional guides. Interested members should call Cary Boyden, 753-3826 ASAP, as it is likely this trip will fill up fast. The plan for those who may be interested is to stay over Thursday pm and on Friday practice what we hopefully learned the previous day.

Cary Boyden, Chairman, 503-753-3826

OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Amador/Trout	Trout	December	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	
		SEE NEXT ISSUE FOR THE NEW 2003 OUTINGS LIST		

Fees applicable access, guide or launching are noted for each trip. Newsletter will have more details or call the Fishmeister.

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 Pearcy	530-756-0932
2003	John Hodgson	530-756-8095
	Jerry Pollock	916-682-7798
2004	Tom Burton	707-678-3850
	Tom Vail	530-662-0733
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
Refreshments	Vacant (Knapp)	
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

Copyright 2002 All Rights Reserved.
 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.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.

This month's e-Newsletter Bonus

Sorry no submissions this month. Claim bragging rights and submit your photos to the editor for next month's issue.

Fly Fishers of Davis
PO Box 525
Davis, CA 95617