

## **From the CONSERVATION DESK**

**By Lowell Ashbaugh, Conservation Chair**

Last month I summarized the conservation goals of a number of organizations that you may want to support and said I'd give you more details later on. This month I'll highlight NCCFFF. I was elected to its board of directors a couple of months ago, so I'll be bringing you more on this organization in the coming months

### **The Northern California Council of the**

**Federation of Fly Fishers** (NCCFFF) represents over 30 clubs as well as non-affiliated individual members. NCCFFF is the only conservation group exclusively representing the interests of fly fishers in Northern California and Nevada. NCCFFF goes to bat for the places and the fish important to our members. You can find more information on them on the Internet at <http://www.nccfff.org/>. Here are a few highlights of recent NCCFFF conservation activities.

- Sponsored and cosponsored proposed sport fishing regulation changes to protect 12 fishing locations from over-harvest, including the Little Truckee River and the Merced River
- Participated in development of the Management Plan for the Upper Sacramento River, resulting in the designation of over 28 miles of the Upper Sac as Wild Trout and Catch and Release Water.
- Presented both written and oral testimony at CALFED hearings, outlining program deficiencies in protection and restoration of fish and fish habitat
- Submitted written and oral testimony on behalf of the angling community on the proposed divestiture of PG&E's hydropower facilities, including those on the Pit, Hat Creek, and McCloud Rivers.
- Participated in two lawsuits to force National Marine Fisheries Service to follow the recommendation of their own scientists and provide protection for dwindling steelhead populations.
- Submitted letters and testimony calling for increased flows for restoration of fish and fish habitat as part of the Trinity River Restoration Plan; mobilized fly fishers to submit hundreds of comment cards
- Cosponsored a legal challenge to the Department of Fish and Game to halt bad practices associated with issuance of special suction dredging permits in our rivers
- Took formal action in an effort to secure river flows necessary for healthy fisheries on multiple rivers including the Scott, Shasta, Calaveras, Feather, and Tuolumne rivers
- Participated as a stakeholder in monitoring a proposed dam replacement project on the

Truckee River which could divert water critical for healthy fish habitat

- The NCCFFF Striped Bass Committee has been monitoring CALFED restoration plans in the Delta and pushing for action to create a healthy, self-sustaining striped bass fishery.
- NCCFFF is representing fly fishers in the re-licensing process for Pit River Power Houses 3, 4, and 5, which will determine the future condition of this important fishery.
- NCCFFF provides Email updates on conservation issues of interest to fly anglers. (To subscribe, send an Email message to [rnferro@yahoo.com](mailto:rnferro@yahoo.com) with "subscribe" in the subject line)
- NCCFFF is a supporter of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA).

### **Conservation News from NCCFFF**

This alert requesting your letter in support of Martis Lake comes from Richard Anderson of Truckee.

#### **Background:**

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is preparing to approve the EIR for the Martis Valley Community Plan. The fly-fishing community has been successful at getting planning staff to include policies in the Martis Valley Community Plan that specifically state Placer County will protect Martis Lake's sport fishery as Martis Valley develops. However, these policies are merely the first step -- what's important are the programs that'll be used to implement them.

At this time, the Community Plan does not identify these programs, and the Environmental Impact Report presents a set of programs and mitigation measures that are inadequate to protect Martis Lake and its trout. The primary concern is that there's no overarching water-quality and fisheries-health monitoring program that assesses the cumulative impacts that would occur from valley-wide development. The only monitoring programs required in the EIR would be project-specific -- for, say, a particular golf course. But even if the impacts from this golf course were insignificant, when impacts from all projects are added together, the combined effect could be quite harmful to the fish.

#### **Letters Needed:**

Individual letters and letters from organizations are needed. Letters should be addressed to the Placer County Board of Supervisors, referencing the Martis Valley Community Plan Final EIR. Letters should make the following points:

- 1) The Martis Valley Community Plan will allow the development of at least 6,000 additional homes, plus golf courses and commercial space, upstream of Martis Lake.
- 2) It is the responsibility of Placer County to

ensure that this development does not harm the lake and its highly-regarded trout sport fishery, which is an important recreational resource.

The County can't protect the lake if it doesn't know the severity and source of impacts caused by development. The Martis Valley Community Plan therefore needs to include a program that will adequately monitor water quality and fishery health in Martis Lake, with the objective of ensuring that neither are impaired. At the very least, this monitoring program must be designed to assess the cumulative effects of development across the valley.

## FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™

*Conserving - Restoring - Educating Through Fly Fishing*  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FFF

presents



## Conclave 2003

**North Tahoe Conference**  
**Center, Kings Beach,**  
**California**

**September 26, 27, and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

In this issue we have a lot of information about the upcoming NCCFFF Conclave Program. Member who have not attended this event should consider this most intensive presentation of fly fishing in Northern California. Plus, you will be supporting our regional council who is our areas prime advocate and mover for fly fishing education, conservation and fly tying. NCCFFF predominantly serves the goals of FFF members and member clubs in NORCAL.. So show your support.

### FEATURED SPEAKER and Program

**Jack Dennis** will be featured at this year's Festival of Fly Fishing. Jack is a world renowned author, guide, teacher of Fly Fishing, Fly Tying and Fly Casting; he will be featured along with more than sixty of the best tiers from Nevada, California, Oregon, Idaho and the other western states.

Learn to tie your favorite patterns with plenty of one on one instruction for beginner's as well as advanced tiers.

Programs on fishing techniques and travel opportunities along with fly casting instruction, **Learn Dutch oven cooking patio style.** All day youth program **featuring hands on casting and tying instruction.**

We will have guides, artists, manufacturers and fly shops on hand to help with your fly fishing wants and needs. This is a great opportunity to meet and mix with some of the true greats of fly fishing. Join us for a weekend and learn things you will use for a lifetime.

**There will be a Friday night reception. Saturday will feature a great banquet along with a live auction and raffle. We will also have raffles and a large silent auction throughout the weekend.**

For more information contact Bob Laubengayer, 8376 Alaterna Court, Orangevale, Ca. 95662 or call (916) 725-0556 or email: rlauben@rcsis.com or our web site www.nccfff.org

### NEW - Arts and Crafts Contest

The Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers is proud to announce an Arts and Crafts contest at this year's conclave.

We are looking for original art, crafts, and needlework that have a fly-fishing theme. The contest is open to you and your family members. Bring your handiwork to Conclave or mail it Bob Laubengayer before September 20, 2003. The judging will be held at Conclave Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. The three winning projects will receive prizes for their achievement and their projects will be included for sale in the Live Auction that evening. All other projects will be sold in the silent auction.

Mail your entries to:

Bob Laubengayer  
8376 Alaterna Ct.  
Orangevale, CA 95662

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**988 Anderson Circle  
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**CIRCLE HOOKS FOR FLY TYING?** [excerpted  
from article on Circle Sculpin.]

By Bob Bates and Marvin Nolte

When an angler first sees a circle hook they KNOW that you can't catch a fish with it. The point is bent in so much it points toward the shank. This must be a joke!! Actually, this design can be traced to the earliest days of fishing with bone and wooden hooks. As strange as it looks it hooks and holds fish.

According to Dr. Hook (Product Manager Geir Sivertzen, O.Mustad & Son A.S., Norway), "The more modern version of Circle hooks are known to be a result of 'product development' among commercial fishermen fishing the reefs of Australia early last century. They lost lots of hooks and lines due to their classic Mustad hooks hooking up the reef. By modifying the point, curling it in as much as possible, they experienced that less hooks were lost. In addition to this fact, they found that their catch ratio increased!!" (Then they had the new designs manufactured by Mustad.)

During the last two or three decades commercial long line fishermen adopted circle hooks for several reasons:  
\* Increased hookups, up to 85 percent in some cases. \* Just about all of the fish were hooked in the corner of the mouth. \* Generally, the fish didn't get off. \*Fish hook themselves. \* Fish were easier to get off the hook once on board the boat. Observing this, sport saltwater anglers began experimenting with circle hooks, and their experience paralleled the commercial fishermen. When a fish swallows a bait the hook and bait will slide out of the gullet as the line is tightened and not catch on the gills or other sensitive parts. The hook catches on the corner of the mouth. Mortality was so much lower than with traditional J hooks that many saltwater tournaments and some states like California require circle hooks for bait fishing in saltwater.

Ok they work with bait, but can you tie a fly on them? The saltwater fly tiers found they could and the fishing experience paralleled that of the bait fishermen. Some care was needed to keep the gap free, and a common Complaint was that the shank wasn't long enough. Hook manufactures are coming out with longer shank hooks like the one Marvin Nolte used to tie this pattern. Now freshwater fly anglers are slowly checking out circle hooks. One thing to remember on selecting circle hooks is to pick ones with no offset. With too much offset you lose the advantage of a circle hook.

Eliminating the instant strike reaction is the biggest circle hook challenge for many fly anglers. We have to wait until the fish has turned away. That is when the hook will pull out of the throat, slide around the corner of the mouth and embed itself. The fish sets the hook; you don't need to. Recommendations include: Let the fish swim away before tightening the line. Continue with a regular strip speed. Line strike not rod strike. Hang on to the line as the fish pulls away. You will have to experiment.

**From the FFF Clubwire.....**

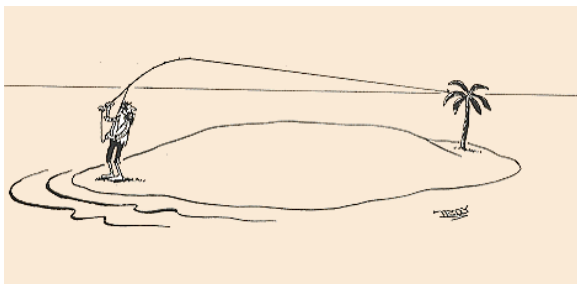
**Casting Tips**

Wind knots caused by those irritating catches in your leader and line. What causes them? Simple physics explains that your line is going to travel completely through the plane. If we fail to let it completely unfurl and start the forward cast on a different plane, then the forward cast and the back cast will pass each other on the bends below the plane of the backcast, causing the tailing loop. How do you fix this?

The easiest fix is to learn to begin your forward cast with slow acceleration to the power stroke so the rod tip doesn't flex below the plane of the back cast. Remember smooth acceleration not squealing your tires. Don't be in a big hurry to start your forward cast. Let the back cast unfurl most of the way before beginning your smooth forward stroke. The longer your cast is the more you have to wait. Get out on the lawn and practice casting with the smoothest stroke you can accomplish.

Backcast...wait...wait...slow smooth acceleration forward. It is like a ballet. Fluid and smooth. Good Luck.  
**From Tippets, Tapers and Tales – Red Cedar Fly Fishers Tailing loops. Don Hull FFF Certified Casting Instructor**

[Editor's notes: Your forward cast should be a smooth and gradual acceleration of power forward to a firm stop. Point: the stop. Tailing loops are primarily caused by too much power at the beginning of the forward power stroke, as well as to little arc for longer casts. So think about "powering" to the stop, like throwing a dart.. Also, lifting the rod or having a convex upward arc at the end of the cast, causes the loop to travel below the rod tip, and tails. Practicing both making and correcting tailing loops will help master this problem. FFCCI.]



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## Conclave "2003" Registration Form

### North Tahoe Conference Center, Kings Beach, California

### September 26, 27, and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Registration fee for Conclave "2003" is \$25.00 per individual and \$35 per family (includes 2 adults and children under 17) for the entire weekend. Registration does not include cocktails, dinner functions, raffles, or auction, which are priced separately but may be purchased as a **package** for an **individual** or **family**. There will be limited tickets available for dinner on Saturday night, so advanced purchase is advised. All tickets and registration packages will be held for pickup at the Conference Center. Full payment must accompany this form. Day time event registration is \$10 per day and will be available at the door. We expect dinner to be sold out prior to September 20, and advise buying dinner tickets in advance. Please print **legibly** and fill out all information on this form.

**If dinner is sold out through advanced registration, earliest postmarks will be given preference.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eve Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Youth Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL PACKAGE (a \$ 82.00 value)**

Includes one of each: Registration, Commemorative Pin, Friday Reception, Saturday Night Dinner, and Sunday Breakfast as well as 12 raffle tickets

# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$60.00 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY PACKAGE (a \$ 144.00 value)**

Includes a Family Registration and two Commemorative Pins, Friday reception, Saturday Night Dinner, and Sunday Breakfast as well as 18 raffle tickets

# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$100.00 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Additional children may be added for the dinner at \$17.50 with the package plan)

# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$17.50 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Individual (3 days)** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Family (3 days)** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Night Reception** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Includes: Hosted Hors' d'oeuvres and No Host Bar)

**Saturday Night Dinner** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bar-B-Q dinner, live auction and raffle.

**Sunday President's Breakfast** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Raffle tickets** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$1 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Or 6 tickets for \$5 (Need not be present to win)  
 # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Commemorative Pin** # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7 per \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 This year pin features a "Jay Fair Grasshopper"

**Please send payment with completed registration form to:**  
**NCC/FFF Conclave "2003"**  
**1911 Bechelli Ln.**  
**Redding, CA 96002-0132**  
**Attn: Phil Greenlee**

For more information contact:  
 Bob Laubengayer, Chairman  
 8376 Alaterna Ct.  
 Orangevale, CA 95662 916-725-0556 rlauben@rcsis.com

**HOTEL ACCOMINDATIONS**

The following businesses indicated discounts to Conclave Participants: (Mention the Conclave when making reservations)

Sun and Sand (\$59 to \$69 / night)  
 800-547-2515 /530-546-2515

**Stevenson's Holiday Inn** (\$55 to \$65 / night)  
 800-634-9142 /530-546-2269

**Farrari's Crown Resort** (\$65 to \$95 / night 2 night min.)  
 800-645-2260 /530-546-3388

**Cancellation Policy:** Written cancellations postmarked by September 10<sup>th</sup>, will be given a 100% refund. No-shows will not receive a refund.

**Conclave “2003” Registration Form**  
**North Tahoe Conference Center, Kings Beach, California**  
**September 26, 27, and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

Mark your calendar.

Ask a friend.

Detach

Complete Conclave Registration

,Place in envelope with remittance.

Mail to

**NCC/FFF Conclave “2003”**  
**Attn: Phil Greenlee**  
**1911 Bechelli Ln.**  
**Redding, CA 96002-0132**

**----- 2003 MEETING DATES, PROGRAMS and Events -----**

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

**2003** (plan for these tentatively scheduled dates)

June 25<sup>th</sup> **FLY FISHING NEW ZEALAND**  
presented by Ron Giles, NZ Kiwi guide.

July 29<sup>th</sup> **FFD Picnic, 6 pm., Community Park behind Art Center.**

August **No Regular Meeting - YOLO COUNTY FAIR August 13th-17th**

September 30<sup>th</sup> TBA

October 28<sup>th</sup> TBA

**-----OUTINGS-----**

.Cary Boyden, Chairman, 530-753-3826

**2003 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)**

<b>TRIP</b>	<b>FISH</b>	<b>DATES</b>	<b>FISHMEISTER</b>	<b>Comments/Fees</b>
Backpacking YS		August	John Forsyth 530-750-1192	
Backpacking OF		August	Tom Burton	
Klamath	Half Pounders	September 4-7	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Klamath	Half Pounders	October	Jim Wirth 530-662-5388	
Redding/Sacramento	Trout/stlhd	October 11	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	132.50 plus tip
Delta	Stripers	October	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Upper Sac	Trout	October	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	
Sugar Creek	Trout	Sat. Nov. 15	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$130 incl lunch.
Pyramid	Cutthroat	November	Jon Knapp	



**Fly Fishing Specialties**

Phone 916-722-1055 Fax 916-722-1081  
6412 Tupulo Drive, Suite C, Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
(I-80 at Antelope West)  
Email: info@flyfishingspecialties.com

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Vice President	Reed Enos	530-756-2331
Treasurer	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
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2003	John Hodgson	530-756-8095
	Jerry Pollock	916-682-7798
2004	Tom Burton	707-678-3850
	Tom Vail	530-662-0733
2005	Adney Bowker	530-758-2674
	Dennis Rolston	530-758-5135
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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	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056
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.

**E-Newsletter Policy**  
 Our e-newsletter policy is to deliver the e-newsletter via email OR for you to download it from the FFD website, <http://www.cal.net/flyfish/>. Be sure if you signed up for the \$25 annual membership you get your email address to 'ronrabun@snowcrest.net'. This will assure you get an email notification for the newsletter. OR, every month the e-version of the newsletter will be posted no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for download. (except for August). You will need the free Adobe Reader, latest version 5.0, (www.adobe.com) to view the PDF format. e reader at www.adobe .com. If you receive the paper version, you can also get the e-version notification by sending your email to Ron

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