

Fly Fishers of Davis

<http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/ffd/>

Volume 32 Issue 10

The Fisherman's Line



Regular Meeting - Tuesday, October 26th, 7:30 P. M.

“FISHING THE OCTOBER CADDIS HATCH”

BILL CARNAZZO



Bill Carnazzo has been fly fishing for over 40 years. His home is in Newcastle, but he spends a great deal of time at his Dunsmuir home on the Upper Sacramento River. He guides on the North Yuba, Rubicon, Upper Sacramento, and McCloud Rivers. Bill is also a master fly tyer, and ties at conclaves and fly fishing shows in California. He has created a number of effective patterns for trout, including Bill's Stick Caddis. Bill is a charter member and past president of Granite Bay Flycasters.

Bill will present a Power Point program that includes some excellent digital photography. The program concentrates on fishing the October Caddis hatch, but also covers short line nymphing tactics for trout, the art of reading water, a bit of entomology, and effective trout patterns.

Prez Says

By John Forsyth

I fished Putah Creek in September and despite the high flows managed to have a nice day, catching several chunky native rainbows and some hatchery plants as well. I had not fished Putah since the New Zealand Mud Snails were discovered last year. I was anxious to see for myself how the stream had changed. I really couldn't find any high in the stream close to the dam, although I didn't have a magnifying glass. They were very evident in the bottom stretches. I imagine they are throughout to stream now. There were still thousands of caddis cases under the rocks and plenty of small nymphs crawling about. The snails have not really overtaken the other bugs, yet. I was impressed with the size of the snails. They are very small! It is very easy to miss them. It is very difficult to make sure your gear is cleaned. I spent a lot of time cleaning my waders, boots, and stick, but I still don't feel good about fishing Putah again without designated gear. It seems very easy to miss these little buggers. I am very pessimistic that these snails will not be in all the local waters soon. They must be down the entire watershed of Putah now and out in the Delta. What would stop them? I have not heard anything about trying to control these invaders since the stream was closed last year. I suspect it is because there really isn't any way to stop them, very sad. Hopefully these snails will not devastate the invertebrate populations as feared. Otherwise we will see a dramatic change in the local waters. Putah Creek will be in prime shape right now, but please be careful with your gear if you decided to fish here.

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

American Fly Fishing Co.
America's Online Fly Shop

www.americanfly.com
3523 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95864
916-483-1222 800-410-1222

From the CONSERVATION DESK

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Truckee River fish survey The California Department of Fish and Game is looking for volunteers to assist with a fish survey on the Truckee River. Tasks will involve electroshocking, then netting (temporarily stunned) fish so that they can be counted, weighed and measured. A great way to help the fishery as well as learn where the big guys REALLY live! Guaranteed to open your eyes. Dates are October 26, 27, and 28. Come for one or all days. For details, contact Bill Somer at wsomer@dfg.ca.gov

CalFed bill The House of Representatives passed the \$395 million CalFed bill earlier this month. The bill aims to restore California's fragile Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and ensure a reliable water supply for millions of users. It represents the first major changes to California's water systems since the 1960s.

House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo, R-Tracy, and Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif, worked together to pass the bill. President Bush is expected to sign it soon.

The CalFed legislation authorizes feasibility studies for several major new storage projects and includes \$90 million for reconstructing levees. It contains ecosystem restoration projects, provisions to expedite approval of 49 recycling projects and an Environmental Water Account to ensure water for fisheries. Water flows to Southern California are increased, and the bill requires a federal feasibility study on restoring California's largest lake, the Salton Sea, which is suffering from increasing salinity.

The bill leaves out so-called pre-authorization language that would have allowed the secretary of the Interior to approve four specific water storage projects without congressional sign-off - enlarging Los Vaqueros reservoir in Contra Costa County, raising the Shasta Dam, surface storage on the Upper San Joaquin, and the Sites reservoir in the Antelope Valley.

The bill "creates storage as the linchpin for implementation of all CalFed elements," Pombo said. "This bill ensures that the program will be carried out in balance with new water storage or else the program will simply not exist."

Environmental groups have expressed fears that streamlining storage projects would override concerns about the effect on the environment, and have favored more conservation programs instead.

The CalFed program, a state-federal effort, has been in the works for a decade. The current effort stems from a 2000 agreement, reached after years of negotiations, on a package of projects to ensure water for different groups of users.

This article is a summary of an Associated Press story by Erica Werner, staff writer, published 10/6/04.

California water contracts Following the CalFed authorization, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources indicated they want to work together and sign long-term water contracts before the November elections. Their plan is to ship more

water south, which would leave less water in northern California Rivers. This has enormous implications for the American River, in particular. I visited the Salmon Festival at Nimbus Hatchery in early October, and learned that the water temperatures are too high to bring the fish up. It seems there isn't enough cold water right now to accommodate the salmon, and there may be another massive fish kill this year.

More information on this topic appears below in the Dan Bacher article.

Trinity River The Healdsburg city council voted unanimously to pull out of a lawsuit that aims to block restoration on the Trinity River. The Westlands Water District brought the suit in 2000 by the shortly after U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt submitted a Record of Decision that would have restored nearly half of the Trinity's water to the river. Last July the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the lawsuit. Westland has file an appeal, but it's clear that participating parties have been pulling out. SMUD, the Port of Oakland, and the cities of Palo Alto and Alameda pulled out of the suit earlier. Restoration plans are continuing for the Trinity.

Salmon memorial

By Dan Bacher

(Reprinted with permission)

The American River is a treasure that winds its way through the heart of the Sacramento metropolitan area. It plays host to large annual migrations of king salmon, steelhead, shad and striped bass every year, making it one of the most popular recreational fisheries in the country.

Unfortunately, biologists from the California Department of Fish and Game are expecting a massive fish kill of fall-run Chinook salmon on the American River this year because of lethally warm water conditions. There is little cold water left in Folsom Reservoir because the Bureau of Reclamation continues to follow a management plan for Folsom that favors agribusiness and other water users over fish.

In the past three years, a total of 181,709 adult salmon died before spawning, surpassing even the Klamath River fish kill of 2002, where as many as 68,000 salmon perished. The American's fish died because of lethally warm water conditions.

Thirty-seven percent of the run of 2003--58,651 out of 158,516 returning adult Chinooks--died before spawning, according to Mike Healey, Department of Fish and Game associate fishery biologist. The vast majority of these fish were natural spawners. In the fall of 2001, 87,626 fish (67 percent of the run) died before spawning.

The annual fish kills are expected to continue until adequate water flow and temperature standards are adopted on the American. The Save the American River Association (SARA), United Anglers, the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, the Sacramento Valley Water Forum and other groups are supporting the adoption of water standards to protect fisheries and restore the river.

The water forum produced a draft document in January 2004 that it would like the State Water Resources Control Board to consider in 2005. The problem is that the bureau wants a permanent dedication of "b2 flows"--water dedicated to fish and wildlife under federal water reform legislation--if it is to support the standards. Conservation groups contend that the

use of this water is supposed to be determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service annually, based on changing needs and conditions.

The time for adoption of flow and temperature standards is long overdue. As Allen Wade, SARA president, said, "We don't want to turn the annual Salmon Festival into a memorial every year." For more information, contact SARA at (916) 387-1763.

Dan Bacher is managing editor of Elk Grove's The Fish Sniffer magazine and board member of United Anglers of California

Conservation News from NCCFFF

By Conservation VP, Mark Rockwell, D.C.

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE DELTA

PUMPING BY 27% The current effort to increase water exports from Northern California by approximately 27% continues to move forward. Those of us who are working on this are calling it the "Stealth Peripheral Canal", because of the low exposure of the issue to most of the public. If passed, it would increase pumping from the State-operated Delta pumps to nearly 8 million acre-feet annually. The NCCFFF is working with many other conservation organizations and user groups to resist unnecessary water exports, and to ensure necessary water quality, temperature and flows to support the many species of fish and other aquatic insects dependent on water. The 8 million acre-feet of water does not include water already extracted from the system upstream of the Delta.

NCCFFF is working with and through the Environmental Water Caucus (EWC) to have impact and influence on the decisions and processes of this crucial issue.

It is important that everyone becomes aware of this "Water Grab", and to speak out against unjustified water requests and unwarranted water uses. Some of the water contract users have requested excessive water, so it will be available to them for resale to cities and counties south of the Delta. We feel this is unjustified, and does not represent proper use of Northern California water. We are not against justified water needs. We are against requesting "water for profit", and water going to users who do not institute needed water conservation techniques. Approximately 80% of Bureau of Reclamation water goes to agricultural use in the San Joaquin Valley, and many of those users have not installed systems that minimize water loss through evaporation and ground seepage.

BUTTE CREEK SPRING SALMON Butte Creek, outside of Chico, holds the last large run of Spring Salmon in the Central valley. We have been working with the Butte Creek Watershed Alliance to negotiate with PG&E to improve the watershed to sustain the fish. In 2001 and 2002 approximately 80% of the spawners died before they had a chance to spawn. This was caused by low flows and high temps, both of which we believe PG&E can improve. Because negotiations were unsuccessful in those two years, we filed a 60-day notice to sue through Earth Justice, our environmental law firm. Since that time, the river temps and flows have been improved over this summer, and the approximately 11,000 fish in the river have done well. We are hopeful they will be able to spawn this October, and that the fry will be able to do well moving down river this winter. We still have no commitment from PG&E on needed operational changes, and we will continue to press forward with them. We have filed

with FERC to press them to consult with PG&E relative to the Endangered Species Act. Because these fish are listed under the ESA, FERC is required to consult on how to protect the fish. So far, FERC has refused. It may require a lawsuit against FERC to push them to do what is required. NCCFFF has dedicated up to \$1,000 to support the lawsuit against FERC.

KLAMATH RIVER WATER AND FERC RELICENSING – PACIFICORP NCCFFF

continues to work for a fair and equitable solution to the water problems on this wonderful river. It has now been estimated by the Department of Fish and Game that as many as 70,000 Klamath River salmon died in 2001 before spawning. The cause was disease, primarily caused by low river flows, high temperatures, and crowding in the lower river below the Trinity River inflow. Our best opportunity to influence this is now, as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) must relicense PacifiCorp, the company that operates the power generation dams on the river. It opens the door for needed changes and improvements for the benefits to users on the river. We are working with the California Hydropower Reform Coalition (CHRC) on the process of negotiations on critical issues that can improve water quality, temps and flows on the river. Areas of discussion are: Increased flows, lower water temps, fish passage above the dams (first time since dams were built), agricultural alternatives for river water, flow ramping between dams, and ecosystem and habitat issues for spawning fish.

BATTLE CREEK HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AND DAM REMOVAL

Negotiations continue on the exact changes that will be made on Battle Creek. The good news is that there will be at least 5 dams removed to improve fish passage and spawning habitat improvement. There are 3 other dams on the creek, and it remains unclear as to the need to remove them. These changes will help restore Battle Creek to some vestige of its historical success as a steelhead and salmon spawning stream. We hope work will begin in 2005. This work is all upstream of the current Battle Creek hatchery south of Redding.

LOWER AMERICAN RIVER FLOW STANDARDS

NCCFFF continues to work with the Lower American River Operating Group on getting the agreed upon flow standards implemented. Because of the Delta levee break this past spring water levels in Folsom Reservoir are dangerously low. This has reduced the cold water reserve, which is used to support spawning salmon and steelhead in the fall. If we had the flow standards working this would not have happened. However, the Bureau of Reclamation has not agreed to this and thus this fall's run of fish is seriously threatened. Again, water use issues are at the root of the problem.

NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL There has been little progress on this issue over the summer. NCCFFF participated in a meeting with Director Brodderick of DF&G in May to express our concern and ask them to be the lead agency to work for solutions to this invasive species. The threat is that it can grow to such densities in streams and rivers that it can destroy the food chain. We made several requests of DF&G, and were promised a response within a few weeks. We continue to wait. However, research as been going on with

equipment, and how to destroy the snails without destroying waders and boots in the process. We expect a report on the results very soon. It is important for all fishermen to check their boots, waders, and any other equipment contacting the water, and to treat their equipment to destroy the snails before going to another stream. Currently, the only known effective treatment is to place equipment in the freezer for several hours. We hope to have better methods very soon.

SIERRA NEVADA TIMBER We continue to monitor timber harvest plans in the Sierra and to offer comments on how to improve these plans. We wrote letters to the Governor to oppose a recent trailer bill to the state budget that would have stopped all oversight on timber harvest plans. Had this passed, timber companies would simply file a plan, and go ahead with it without any oversight or review of the plan. This could have been devastating to the Sierra ecosystems and watersheds. Fortunately, we were successful in getting this trailer dropped from the budget, and oversight and review will continue to be part of the process in getting a timber harvest plan approved. **Public oversight is a vital process in managing our environment and ensuring protection.**

PAIUTE CUTTHROAT TROUT NCCFFF, in conjunction with Trout Unlimited and Cal Trout, has been working to support California DF&G to reestablish this, the most rare of all trout, into its natural drainage in the Sierra south of Lake Tahoe. DF&G has proposed to treat Silver King Creek with rotenone, and then replant genetically pure Paiute cutthroats into this water. It is a program DF&G has been working to finish for three years. We had written many letters to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, which must approve a permit to use rotenone, in support of the program, and asking that they approve the permit. In the end, special interests that did not want rotenone used prevailed, and the permit was not granted. **This fish is in danger of going extinct if the project isn't started soon.** To that end, DF&G, with support of NCCFFF, Cal Trout and Trout Unlimited, is considering appeal to the State of California Water Quality Control Board, and requesting an override of the regional

decision. It is important to save this species, and return it to its native watersheds.

STRIPER FEST 2004 – SET FOR NOVEMBER

6th Dan Blanton's Striper fest will be held at the Sugar Barge Marina on Bethel Island on November 6, 2004. This is a great day on the Delta that includes fishing during the day, libations late afternoon, and a dinner in the evening. There will be a raffle and auction accompanying the evening activities, and the money raised will be used for conservation efforts in the Delta. Please join us for a great day of fun and fishing. More information is at www.danblanton.com, 1440 **Sugar Barge Rd., Bethel Island. 925 684-9075.** This is the primary fundraiser for the NCCFFF Bay-Delta Committee.

CONSERVATION NETWORK MEETING

There will be a **NCCFFF Conservation Network meeting on November 13, 2004, at Sugar Barge Marina on Bethel Island.** This is our twice yearly meeting where all the members who work tirelessly on conservation issues can get together to discuss and plan. We will have a presentation by Pat Coulston of the Delta division of DF&G on striped bass and the bay-delta ecosystem. He will discuss the effects of increased water export, and other water quality issues. We are also hoping to have a presentation on the Environmental Water Caucus Campaign against the increased Delta pumping. This is a very important meeting to set coming strategies and policies relative to conservation within the NCCFFF conservation network. Contact Mark Rockwell, 530 432-9198, or vpconservation@nccfff.org.

No, honestly officer, we haven't seen any fishermen around these parts all day!



BUSTED

Call it dumb, call it forgetfulness, call it old timers disease, call it listening to the wrong person, call it anything you please, it was just plain embarrassing. This is just a reminder to all of us that Murphy's Law is alive and well and will rise up and snag your fly when you least expect it.

How many times have you been checked for a fishing license this year? Probably none, nada, zip, zero. One member, who will remain un-named, of the recent Payne Ranch outing was cited for not having a fishing license. If you want the full story question the fishmeister, John Reynolds, at the next meeting. No it wasn't John.

John picked a perfect day to hike to the smallmouth ponds at Payne Ranch. Four FFD clubsters and one prospective member had wonderful day fishing. Weather was perfect and the hike was not as difficult as past ventures with John.

Pond number 1 was low and the cattails restricted access but 50-60 smallies were caught and released. Pond number 2, the swimming hole, was so over grown that little time was wasted there and only 3-4 fish were caught. The hike over the next ridge and through acres of dry star thistle to pond number 4 was quickly accomplished and lunch was promptly devoured.

Pond number 4 was about 1/3 the normal size. The water was extremely clear and many fish were cruising. Five fly rods went to work and almost everyone had a fish on with the first cast. Just about any sinking fly would work but the best producer was a rubber-leg concoction of the Fish Meister, which he offered up for sale. At the end of the day the estimated count was somewhere between 200 and 300 small mouth bass caught and released.

There is a very good possibility that John Reynolds will consent to be the fishmeister for a future hike into Payne Ranch and if you like to catch lots of smallies this is the outing for you. Make sure you bring your license because DFG does patrol this remote area.

This Month's Fly – The JANSSEN Leech



The Janssen Leech is a very easy to tie leech pattern this is quite effective. The marabou wings give this pattern an enticing motion in the water. It can be tied with or without lead weight. In cinnamon brown the Janssen Leech has been effective as a pattern for “wind drifting” at Davis, Lake. The wing is a series of small marabou bunches tied on top of the hook shank. These smaller bunches are less likely than the conventional marabou wing to wrap around the hook bend during casting. The wing still retains the enticing motion of marabou.

Our Monthly Fly Tying Contest is Graciously Sponsored by the American Fly Fishing Company

3523 Fair Oaks Blvd.

Sacramento, CA 95864

916-483-1222 or 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.

Janssen Leech

Hook: 2 to 4 X long in either standard wire or heavy wire.

Thread: To match color of the body and wing 3/0 or 6/0.

Tail: A small bunch of marabou.

Body: Tying thread

Wing: A series of small marabou bunches tied on top of the hook shank.

Hackle: None

Throat: none

Head: Marabou dubbed and wrapped as a collar.

Tying instructions:

Attach the tying thread near the hook bend and tie in a small bunch of marabou. Cover the marabou with thread and advance up the shank about 3/16 inch. Tie in a second bunch of marabou and continue with this pattern until you reach a point just behind the eye position. When the wing is completed, dub a collar using marabou spun on the tying thread. Finish the head with the tying thread and whip finish. The fly can be tied with different colored marabou – black, olive, dark brown. Using red or other colored thread under the body also changes the look of the pattern. Red thread and cinnamon brown make a nice combination.

----- OUTINGS and PROGRAM CALENDAR for 2004 -----

There were great signups for each of the striper, Pyramid and Amador outings. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AMADOR TRIP HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE 12TH TO AVOID THE CONFLICT WITH THE PYRAMID WEEKEND ON THE 4TH-5TH. As usual the Amador trip will follow the Putah cleanup on the 11th of December.

The Fly Shop trip on the 16th promises to be at the height of the salmon spawning and steelhead following. As of press time the salmon were just starting to hit the beds and the spawning period typically lasts less than a month and peaks about halfway through. Two years ago on the same weekend the fishing was unbelievable. Each signee will be contacted regarding the get together at the Red Bluff campground, and a good number of attendees have already indicated they will be attending the conclave in Redding on Friday.
Cary Boyden, Chairman, 530-753-3826

2004 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Notes/Fees
Redding/Sacramento	Trout/steelhead	Oct 16 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$140.00 plus tip
Delta	Stripers	Oct 30 th	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Upper Sac	Trout	Nov	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	
Sugar Creek	Trout	Nov	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$130
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Dec 4 th & 5 th	Jon Knapp 530-756-9056	
Putah Cleanup	Pamper fish	Dec 11 th	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	
Amador	Trout	Dec 12 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Old Fogies	Trout	Aug 5,6,7 '05	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	

The program calendar is being updated.

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Vice President	Reed Enos	530-756-2331
Treasurer	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Secretary	Bob Percy	530-756-0932
DIRECTORS		
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
COMMITTEES		
Outings	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826
Conservation	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
Newsletter	Bob Beverlin	530-753-6805
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

Copyright 2004 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.

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 at: <http://www.dcn.davis.us/go/ffd/>. Be sure if you signed up for the \$25 annual membership that you get your email address to [Bob Beverlin](mailto:Bob.Beverlin@ucdavis.edu) at <mailto:rcbeverlin@ucdavis.edu>. This will assure that you get an email notification of the newsletter. Each month, except 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. If you receive the paper version, you can also get the e-version notification by sending your email to "[the bobber](mailto:thebobber)".

Fishermen's Line is copyrighted by the Fly Fishers of Davis.



Cal's Pal

**Fly Fishers of Davis
PO Box 525
Davis, CA 95617-0525**