

Fly Fishers of Davis<http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/ffd/>

Volume 33 Issue 2

The Fisherman's Line



Annual Dinner Saturday, February 26th, 6:00 pm.

The dinner will be held again this year at Lillard Hall, next to the West Plainfield Fire Station on Road 95. To get there simply head West on Covell Blvd (Rd 31) turn right and head North on Road 95 and watch for Lillard Hall on the right. The hall is immediately South of the West Plainfield Fire Station and there is adequate parking in the gravel lot in front of the Hall.

Hickory Hank's Bar-B-Que will be returning with the Tri-Tip, Hot Links, Ribs, Chicken, Caesar Salad, Potato Salad, BBQ Beans, and Texas Cake, and he assures me it is even better this year.

The raffle is shaping up well. Grand prize this year is a Sage XP 4 piece 7 weight rod. There are three or four guided trips to be won, a couple of other fly rods, the usual assortment of tying materials, an incredible fly fishers travel bag that will effectively handle your reels, rods, and underwear, not to mention a 3 piece suit and a case or two of power bait; and also, of course, the gamut of odds and ends, artwork, gimmicks, wading jacket, vest, discounts and gift certificates, etc. etc. etc.. The singing bass has not shown up again this year but, of course, there is still time. As always there will be the infamous "High Roller Prize." Get a High Roller Prize ticket for each fifty \$1.00 tickets purchased. You will want to take a shot at the High Roller Prize when you see it at the dinner.

So be sure the Dinner is on your calendar and don't miss it. Tickets will be available at the door. As you know the dinner is Saturday February 26. Doors open at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00

Reed Enos

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From the CONSERVATION DESK

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Water Issues continue to be controversial in California, and promise to become more so in the next four years. Let's review some of them.

Klamath River A federal judge ruled last month that Coho salmon should not have been listed as threatened without taking into account hatchery fish, but he also refused to delist them without a federal review. Meanwhile, the Klamath River continues to suffer from drought and Bureau of Reclamation diversions to Klamath Basin farmers. The storms that pounded California this year bypassed the Klamath Basin, prompting regulators to declare it a dry year. This designation would allow more water for farmers and less for fish. But in some good news, there are calls for removing the federal subsidy on electrical power to pump water (Klamath farmers pay rates established in 1917!) and studies that show a greater economic benefit to the fishing industry by letting water flow down the river than to farming by diverting it. This battle will continue for some time.

Trinity River The Record of Decision (ROD) that would restore about 48% of the Trinity's water to the river was entered four years ago in the final days of the Clinton Administration. Now it may finally be as the Westlands Water District dropped the fight to enforce the decision. Currently, all but about 25% of the Trinity's water is diverted to the Central Valley Project and sent to farms in the San Joaquin Valley. Bridges are now being rebuilt to withstand the flows that will soon be running down the Trinity.

In another story related to the Trinity, the federal government recently settled a separate lawsuit with the Westlands Water District to take 33,000 acres out of production. This was marginal land that had been poisoned by selenium – farmers had sued to force the government to provide drainage to keep it in production. The government agreed to pay 19 farm families \$133 million to take the land out of production in what is sure to be used as a precedent in other similar cases.

Upper Sacramento River The recently passed Cal-Fed legislation sponsored by Senator Dianne Feinstein contains a provision to raise Shasta Dam by somewhere between 6 and 200 feet. The dam was designed to be 200 feet higher, so it's

technically feasible to raise it. But just imagine what that would do to the upper Sacramento and McCloud Rivers. This scheme would also inundate the remaining cultural resources of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe. According to Feinstein, "I believe it is a God-given right as Californians to be able to water gardens and lawns." Remarkably, the Bureau of Reclamation estimates there has been sufficient rain in only 2 of the last 77 years to go beyond the existing storage in Lake Shasta.

Conservation News from NCCFFF **NZMS Gear Decontamination Study Update**



As you've undoubtedly heard by now, New Zealand Mud Snails are found in Northern California's Putah Creek, Mokelumne River, Napa River, and Calaveras

River following their discovery in seven western states and three national parks. These small creatures pose a potentially devastating threat to our fisheries because they compete with our native fish and aquatic organisms for food. But what do we know about them and what can we do to minimize their impact on our fisheries?

The NCCFFF, allied organizations and concerned individuals have been working for over a year on retarding the spread of the New Zealand Mud Snail in California. In October 2003, there were five infested streams (Owens, Mokelumne, and Calaveras rivers, Hot and Putah Creeks).

Unfortunately, two more rivers, the Napa and the Tuolumne, were added in 2004. There is no indication that state hatcheries have been infested, but the private Alpers hatchery is infested

Progress in understanding the snail has been glacially slow. A series of meetings with DFG in the fall of 2003 produced little progress. In January of 2004, the NCCFFF convened a small group of people to seek ways of slowing the spread of the snails into other waters. A working group was established consisting of Dave Lentz and Brian Finlayson of DFG, Dave Bergendorf, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Ralph Cutter and Dave Ford representing fly fishers. To get the project underway, the NCCFFF board approved a \$3500 grant to DFG in February 2004 for a study of how to decontaminate gear. Cal Trout matched this

grant, and research started in March 2004. It was soon discovered that a larger source of funds, the federal Bay/Delta grant program, was available for projects of this type. Led by Dave Bergendorf, a \$25,000 grant package was quickly assembled and submitted.

The grant was approved by the federal agencies in May 2003. The federal grant would pay not only for the testing but also for publicizing the results so that the information would reach wading anglers. Upon being notified that the grant had been given to DFG, we withdrew the NCCFFF/Cal Trout contract.

Testing got underway promptly, divided into three phases. Phase 1 was to determine which chemicals would kill the snails within five minutes of application, a key premise of the technical specification developed by NCCFFF. Phase 2 was to test the chemicals effective in killing snails to determine that they would not damage wading gear. Phase 3 would be a final test with snails on wading gear.

Then bureaucracy reared its ugly head. DFG did not accept the federal grant and testing was halted in November! There was apparently some language in the grant with which DFG contract administrators have a problem. Accordingly, DFG has not accepted the \$25,000, and Phase 3 is on hold.

The NCC and Cal Trout requested a meeting with senior staff of DFG to discuss the whole issue of the NZMS in California, including the contract impasse. The meeting was held 1 December 2004 and saw apparent progress on a number of issues, including the decontamination project stoppage. We were promised that the issue would be looked into within two weeks. At the end of that two weeks, Mark Rockwell followed up, and we are now told it will be another two weeks.

As of this writing, the contract has just cleared. Phase 3 is now scheduled to start in 2-3 weeks. A variety of application methods will be used, including spray, dip, and shake bag. The original research was done with immersion, but that isn't practical in the field. There will be a need for

volunteers to participate, particularly from the Fly Fishers of Davis, CFFU, and Granite Bay Flyfishers. There will be a few thousand dollars left over that will be used for outreach and publicity of the results.

Upper Sacramento River Train derailments and rail cars in the river continue since the disaster of 1991. Regulators have been ineffective. It may help to write letters and make calls to elected officials, community and organization leaders, and news organizations. Because the Federal 9th Circuit Court blocked the State PUC from having any control over railroad operations in California, NCCFFF has taken this to the next level, which will be to attempt to get a change in the Federal Rail Safety Act via a Legislative amendment in Congress. We met with the Resources Agency in Sacramento on November 29 to ask for the State's support, and will be doing additional work in this arena before asking our Federal Representatives to introduce the Federal legislation change. Our partners are Cal Trout, CPUC and Bill Berry.

Cal Wild NCCFFF is actively working with a large coalition of groups on the California Wild Heritage Campaign (Cal Wild). The Campaign objective is to secure legislative protection for wild lands and rivers on public property that currently are subject to dams, water diversion, logging or mining. The specific form and level of protection will vary with the situation but could include National Conservation Area or Wild and/or Scenic status. Actual "Wilderness" designations are not being considered at this time.

The committee is currently building support for the Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Act, Introduced in Congress by Mike Thompson, and in the Senate by Senators Feinstein and Boxer. Dr. Michael MacWilliams is currently serving on the Governing Board, but will move to the Advisory Committee when the final Governing Board is approved. Cal Trout will also participate on the Advisory committee. Sandy Leo and Derrell Bridgemen are focused on lobbying local Congressional Members.

Fly Tying Classes

Introductory fly tying classes will begin Wednesday February 2 at the Viticulture Field House. The Introductory Classes are scheduled for Feb 2, 9, 16 and 23. Class will begin at 7:00 pm and run until 9:00 pm. A sign up sheet and map to the Field House will be available at the January meeting. Alternatively, you can contact Bob Zasoski at 530-753-2241 H, 752-2210 W or by email rjzasoski@ucdavis.edu. Bobbins, bodkins, hackle pliers and vices are provided by the club for use during class; however you should bring a pair of small, sharp scissors. If you have your own equipment, bring it to class. A charge of \$15 dollars is designed cover the cost of materials and handouts used in class.

Advanced classes will begin March 2. In the advanced class club members will demonstrate the production of their favorite flies and discuss the techniques necessary to make these killer patterns. Participants will supply their own materials and equipment. These classes will also run from 7 to 9 pm on Wednesdays. You can sign up at the January meeting or contact **Bob Zasoski**.

March's Fly of the Month: Zug Bug



Thread: Black

Tail: 5-8 fibers of peacock sword

Rib: Silver tinsel

Abdomen: Peacock herl

Legs: brown or furnace hackle, beard-style

Wingcase: Mallard dyed woodduck

Uses

Zug Bugs suggest many different insects, including cased caddis and free-living caddis larvae.

How to Fish

Dead drift near bottom with indicator or tight line.

Hook: 5262 or 3761, sizes 10-14; weighted

Putah Creek clean-up

March 5, 2005 (Saturday) 9:00 AM

Fishing Access #4 (same place as always)

Bring galoshes, work gloves and grubby clothes as we will be tromping through the brush hunting down every last pamper. If we should run out of trash to pick up there are some big pieces of Arundo that "need to die" so consider bringing your pruning loppers. We hope to recruit Tom Burton again this year to serve as "weenie meister" (we have dozens of tube steaks left over from last year - all they need is a shave!) Look for a sign-up sheet at the February meeting.

John Reynolds



Kiene's Fly Shop would like to thank you for your participation in our past Expos as well as our 2004 Expo. Last year was a great success with the cooperative weather and excellent customer attendance.

Hopefully your calendars are marked for our next fly fishing expo, which is Saturday, April 23, 2005 from 9 am - 5 pm. We hope you will once again take advantage of this opportunity to promote your club.

Please call or email Marilyn (marilyn@kiene.com) or Amy (amy@kiene.com) to reserve tables and chairs.

As in the past, we will be serving hot dogs, sodas, water etc. at no charge.

Hope to hear from you soon,
Bill and Marilyn Kiene

Sponsorship

We're pleased to introduce and welcome the support of our newest sponsor for the coming year.

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State of the Fly Fishers of Davis

John Forsyth

As outgoing president I thought it would be good to review the state of the club and give much deserved credit to all those members who have helped me through the last two years. Our membership is reaching new highs, topping the century mark, which is partially due to Dennis Ralston publicizing the meetings. Not that we want to have the biggest club, but we definitely need new members to keep things moving forward. When I'm considered one of the "young guys" while starting to get AARP literature, it is time for some really young members. We continue to be on very stable financial ground. Lowell Ashbaugh has done considerable work on the budget as treasurer. Ron Rabun initiated the electronic newsletter distribution, and this has dramatically cut our expenses. This gives us the opportunity to continue to invite an exciting group of monthly speakers. Thanks to Ron for doing an excellent job for the past several years as both program chair and newsletter editor, a Herculean effort. Bob Beverlin has picked up where Ron left off as newsletter editor, and the product continues to improve. This is a huge task, Kudos to both of you. One of the club's functions is to work on conservation projects and support like causes. Thanks again to Lowell for all the effort on conservation. The annual Putah Creek clean up (scheduled March 5th) is now also a fine BBQ picnic thanks to Tom Burton and John Reynolds. Jim Wirth and Bill Rains have spearheaded the salmon in the classroom project, and it grows each year. We certainly need to work on a strategy for donating funds to worthy causes and supporting local conservation activities. This is an area where we could improve. I am very proud of the number and variety of clinics and outings available to the members. Bob Z has done a superb job with both fly tying classes and arranging a fantastic casting clinic in the spring. Cary Boyden continues to outdo himself with high quality outings. Reed and Jeanie Enos have worked tirelessly on the annual dinner, doing most of the heavy lifting. Everyone has been quite pleased how the dinner has evolved. I am confident Bob Percy will do an excellent job for the next two years. Heartfelt thanks go out to all the board members and others who have helped me along the way. There are too many members to individually recognize. It has been my pleasure to participate with such a fine group. **John Forsyth**

Final Annual Dinner Announcement

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Annual Dinner, Saturday February 26, 2004

WEST PLAINFIELD FIRE STATION – LILLIARD HALL

6 pm. Social Hour - 7 pm. Dinner, \$25 per person.

Plan your date for the Annual Dinner. Again this year's event will have a great meal, FFD special photo presentation and the ever fantastic Conservation Drawing. This year's caterer, Hickory Hank, will be serving up Barbecued Chicken, Ribs, Tri-tip, and Hot Links, Beans, Salad, and Dessert. Notice that the Dinner price is the same as last year, **ONLY \$25!** Wine and beer will also be available for purchase.

Drawing Donations: We are acquiring our usual booty of prizes but **YOU** can be a valued participant also. Donate items you already have or sign up to tie a collection of flies. Member Trip or Activity Certificates are another option where you donate a docent guide or fishing trip for as a Silent Auction or Bucket item. If you have a boat or special fishing location, volunteer to take a member who obtains the certificate with a minimum donation to the club of \$25. This is an excellent way to make friends and help the club.

The FFD Annual Dinner will be at Lillard Hall at the West Plainfield Fire Station, 24905 Rd. 95. Take Covell Blvd West to Rd 95 then turn right and proceed North. It will be on the right hand side of the road when headed North on County Road 95.

For donations or information contact: Reed Enos, Annual Dinner Chairman, lrenos@softcom.net, 530 756 2331

----- **OUTINGS CALENDAR for 2005** -----

Readers will note the fill-ins of a number of outings dates for which signups have either been started or will be laid out in March. For Jon's and John's trips presumably suggested flies will either be discussed in March or in an article posted here or on our website. For those going on any of my ventures, here is a non-exclusive list of suggestions:

Sacramento: size 14 fox pupas green and brown, copper johns same size in copper and red and maybe green, hare's ears size 14 in grey and regular, Gordon and regular princes again in 14, mercer poxybacks in 10 or 12 (be forewarned that no matter what you have the guide will have other ideas and your wallet will suffer)

Iron Canyon: regular wine and fluorescent thread and wire San Juans 10-14 (the latter on Daichi 1150 or English bait hooks-tough to find) and 14 Iron Canyon specials (if water murky). English style baithooks are Gamakatsu model C12U which are marketed as a caddis fly hook

Shad: usual suspects (my favorite is the Uncle _____ special tied with fluorescent pink edge glo, yellow braided tinsel tail, fluorescent red or pink thread and standard bead chain)

Lewiston: green buggers and no back leeches 8-12, O'Brien midges in 12, pts in 14-16, San Juans in the fluorescent style 8-12, mercer poxybacks 12 etc; good dry fishing possible

Klamath: to paraphrase Ohrwall: anything as long as it's a brindle; also rubber legs under indicators and the other usual Klamath flies like assassins, hiltons, green drakes etc.; for those who doubt brindles it is still strongly suggested that some be brought along in case those with no imagination may prove correct.

Cary Boyden

Outings Update

| <u>TRIP</u> | <u>FISH</u> | <u>DATES</u> | <u>FISHMEISTER</u> | <u>Comments/Fees</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Amador Lake | Trout | Feb 12 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | Note: Date Changed! |
| Redding Sacramento | Trout | Mar 19 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | \$150.00 plus tip |
| Iron Canyon | Trout | Apr 1 st -3 rd | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | |
| Pyramid | Cutthroat | Apr 9 th | Jon Knapp 530-756-9056 | |
| Payne's Ranch | Bass | May 14 th | John Reynolds 530-753-2682 | |
| Shad | Shad | May 20 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | |
| Yamsi Ranch | Trout | Jun 18 th | Jon Knapp 530-756-9056 | \$100 rod per day |
| Davis Lake | Trout | Jun 3 rd - 5 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | |
| Lewiston | Trout | Jul 15 th - 17 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | |
| Backpacking YS | Trout | Aug | John Forsyth 530-750-1192 | |
| Backpacking OF | Trout | Aug 5 th - 7 th | Tom Burton 707-678-3850 | |
| Klamath | Half Pounders | Sep 8 th - 10 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | |
| Redding/Sacramento | Trout/steelhead | Oct 15 th | Cary Boyden 530-753-3826 | \$150.00 plus tip |
| Delta | Stripers | Oct | Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149 | |

Officers, Directors and Committees

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| President: | Bob Pearcy | 530-756-0932 |
| Vice President | Lowell Ashbaugh | 530-758-6722 |
| Treasurer | Lowell Ashbaugh | 530-758-6722 |
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| 2005 | Adney Bowker | 530-758-2674 |
| | Dennis Rolston | 530-758-5135 |
| 2006 | Bob Beverlin | 530-753-6805 |
| | John Daniels | <u>530-750-3511</u> |
| 2007 | Joel Salinas | 717-446-8097 |
| | Gene Gantt | 707-451-3262 |
| 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 | John Forsyth | 530-750-1192 |
| Refreshments | Jon Knapp | 530-756-9056 |
| Raffle Chair | Tom Burton | 707-678-3850 |
| Fly Tying | Bob Zasoski | 530-753-2241 |
| Picnic Chair | John Forsyth | 530-750-1192. |
| Video Library | John Reynolds | 530-753-2682 |

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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 policy is to deliver the e-newsletter via email OR you may download it from the FFD website at: <http://www.dcn.davis.ca.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)".

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