

The Fisherman's Line

Our next meeting is at 7:30 on Tuesday March 27th

Bronze Back Fever

By Steve Cooper

Arguably, the most overlooked smallmouth bass. Whether you call "brownies," or *Micropterus* of the hardest fighting fish, pound-run into in freshwater. Yet only this species. For the March program, Guide Service will share with us his bass and discuss his tactics for smallmouth waters in the West, Washington's Grand Ronde River, Stockton, California, and he is the High Plain's Drifters Guide Service, exploring the West's largely fisheries. His program documents adventure required when pursuing



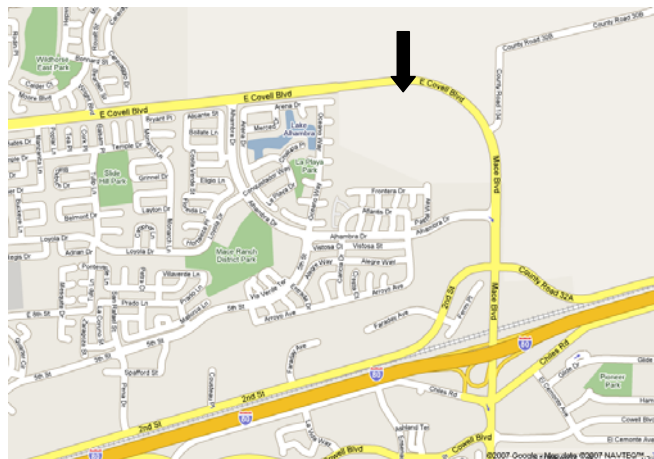
game fish in the West is the them "smallies," "bronzebacks," *dolomieu*, the smallmouth bass is one for-pound, that you are ever likely to rarely do you hear of anyone targeting Steve Cooper of High Plain's Drifters take on the much ignored smallmouth catching fish on two of his favorite Oregon's Umpqua River, and Steve was born and raised in owner/operator/head guide for the devoting most of his summers undiscovered smallmouth bass the trials, tribulations and sense of this wonderful predator.

(Vice) Prez Says

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Thanks to all of you who attended the Annual Dinner last month and supported your club. We had a great time and dispensed lots of raffle prizes. As usual, a core group of people was responsible for making sure everything ran smoothly. I know I'll not be able to thank everyone, so my apologies in advance to those I miss. Gene Gantt put in a great deal of effort to coordinate the event and solicit raffle prizes. Bill Kiene supported us once again with donations and discounts on raffle prizes. Reed Enos, Tom Burton, and Bob Zasoski did the shopping. John Daniels put together the video program – great music selection, too! Jeanne Enos and Margorie March provided the table decorations, and all the board members helped set up and clean up afterward. And most importantly of all, nearly 100 of you attended and enjoyed the party. Thanks to all! The Annual Dinner is our major fundraiser for the year, providing funds for our conservation efforts and the speaker program throughout the year. The success of this year's dinner ensures we'll be able to continue to offer high quality programs and to support efforts to maintain our fisheries.

New Meeting Location



As most of you know, our long-time relationship with Davis Waste Removal has ended. DWR decided this year to not allow any regularly recurring meetings in the room where we've been meeting. Fortunately, we've lined up the multipurpose room at Harper Junior High School for our meetings. The school is near the bend where Mace Boulevard becomes Covell Boulevard. There's a map showing where we're located – the multipurpose room is just on the left as you enter the school through the obvious archway right in front. If you're taking I-80 to get here, take the Mace Boulevard exit and go north until just past the bend. The school will be on your left. If you're coming from the north, take Covell Boulevard east until you get past all the houses. If you take the bend onto Mace, you've gone too far. Instead turn into the school parking lot just before the bend. The meeting should be easy to find. See you there!

And now a few words from our Sponsors



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Membership

Please welcome our newest members Spencer Defty and his six young men, Richard Bellows, John Lutch and Vic Lim. We also need to remind you that the Cut-off date for renewing your membership in the Fly Fishers of Davis has now past. The membership roster is being trimmed and some of you will wonder where your wonderfully informative newsletter has gone. Should you choose to crash the gates at our next meeting; a disarming guard (John Reynolds) will be there to collect your dues. - [John Reynolds](#) - **membership chair**

How to become a member of the Fly Fishers of Davis

Membership in the FFD requires an annual donation of \$25 for an adult/family and \$15 for individual youth/student members. Annual dues are \$25. At this rate you **MUST** provide an e-mail address and will receive the monthly newsletter as a PDF. If you do not have internet access and want a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to you dues is \$35. You can bring the application to the club meetings, which are held at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the conference room at DWR, 2727 2nd St. in Davis). For more information, contact: [John Reynolds](#), 530-753-2682 or jreyn@dcn.org

Name _____ Address _____ Davis, CA. 95616 - Phone (530) _____

Occupation _____ e-mail: _____

Fly fishing interest and experience: _____

Our club is only as great as its members, so please **circle one or more** of the following areas where you could share your expertise.

Annual Picnic, Annual Dinner, Guest Speakers, Putah Creek Cleanup, Membership, Budget, Conservation, Newsletter, Communications, Outings, Marketing, Youth Programs, Salmon in the Classroom, Education.

Please also **circle** if you would like to **teach, assist, or attend** any of our classes in **Rod building, Fly Tying, or Casting.**

For insurance reasons, you must be a current club member to attend any of our outings

Fly of the Month

By Bob Zasoski

The Gold Rib Hare's Ear (GRHE- bead head)

Hare's ear tied with rabbit body hair.



The Gold Rib Hare's Ear (GRHE) nymph has been a staple for decades. It and the pheasant tail (PT) nymph are probably the most popular nymph patterns ever. As with all things, as new materials and techniques are tried patterns evolve. The fly we will tie this month is a flash back version with a gold bead head. This pattern will introduce you to dubbing a body, the dubbing loop, a flash back wing case or covert and a bead head.

Hare's Ear

Hook: Standard wet fly or other size 8-16 hooks. This fly looks good on a Tiemco 200R in large sizes and the TMC 2302 in smaller sizes. A heavier hook will also work.

Head: Gold bead.

Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 tan

Tail: A short bunch of hare's ear with an abundance of guard hairs. Wood duck, rabbit body hair, or light colored deer hairs are good substitutes.

Body: Tan dubbed fur, hare's mask, and mink or rabbit body fur.

Rib: Fine or medium oval gold tinsel

Thorax: Built up with dubbing- an abundance of guard hairs is needed to get the rough spikey thorax.

Wing case: Holographic Mylar tinsel. The traditional version has mottled turkey treated with flexament, fixative or varnish, to cement the fibers together. See the olive version pictured below.

Hackle: none. A soft hackle is a nice touch but not part of the

Top view of the hare's ear showing the holographic tinsel covert



original pattern.

Tying Instructions: Debarb the hook, run the hook point through the bead, and secure the hook in the vice with the head located near the hook bend. Attach the tying thread and build up a thread base behind the eye so that the bead will just slip over the thread to the eye position. Secure and remove the thread.

Apply head cement to the built up thread area and slip the bead forward to the eye. Alternatively, you can push the bead to the eye position, wind lead around the shank and push the lead forward into the space between the bead and the shank. If you use lead attach the thread and bind down the lead. If you didn't use lead, attach the thread behind the bead. In either case wind the thread to the tail position. Tie in a bunch of hare's ear guard hairs or an alternative tailing materials that are about 1/2 the length of the shank. Elk hair, deer hair, or wood duck flank fibers (8-10) make good alternatives. Attach the gold tinsel. Dub a tapered body to a position about 2/3 the way up the shank. When the dubbing is at the wing position, counter wind the gold tinsel and tie it off at the wing position. You could also add Krystal flash as it makes for a wonderful ribbing, but it is fragile. Winding it next to the gold tinsel will help to protect it from damage. With the ribbing secured, tie in a short length of holographic Mylar tinsel on top of the shank to make the wing case. Form a dubbing loop and fill with dubbing material. *[It is common for hare's mask to be poorly cured. Meaning-it may stink to the point of needing to be discarded. If you shop for hare's mask, open the package and check the odor before you bring it home. As reasonable alternative is natural rabbit body fur such as Zonker strips.]* Wind the thorax up to the bead and pick out the dubbing. Pull the Mylar tinsel over the thorax and tie it off behind the bead. Whip finish and cement the thread. A version using olive hare's mask is shown below. - [Bob Zasoski](#)

Olive hare's ear tied with the traditional turkey wing case.



From the CONSERVATION DESK

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Proposed Manzanita Lake Development The National Park Service is planning to add commercial development at Manzanita Lake. You can find the plan at the park's website - <http://www.nps.gov/lavo/parkmgmt/index.htm>. Scroll down to the "Commercial Services Plan January 2007" to see the 84-page plan. Their "preferred alternative" is to add approximately 40-60 tent cabins at Manzanita Lake in the old Campground Loop B. The camper services building would be replaced or remodeled and the bathrooms would be remodeled or replaced. Additionally, the plan calls for small boat, canoes or kayaks to be available for rent at the lake. The cutoff for comments on this plan was in February, unfortunately. If you feel strongly about it, though, write a letter to Park Superintendent Mary Martin. The park's address is Lassen Volcanic National Park, PO Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063.

Water for Fish There are lots of ways you can contribute to improving our fisheries (and other environments, too!). An easy way to add your name to thousands of others is to visit <http://www.water4fish.org/sign-petition/> and sign the petition. You can read more about the Water for Fish group at the "Home" link. The purpose of the group is summarized in this statement – *California is in the process of restructuring its water policies to meet the needs of its population growth. The "Water Wars" have reached new proportions and fish and fishermen are losing the battle. If fishermen don't unite and make their voices heard in the political process, we will lose millions of fish and the many benefits they bring to fishermen and to the economy.* I've found this statement to be absolutely true – the only way to preserve the fisheries (and other environments) we care about is to unite with others and make our voices heard. Please take a moment today to make a difference.

Klamath River There's been a lot of action on the Klamath River in the past two months. A report was released that indicated it would be cheaper for PacifiCorp to remove four dams on the river than to keep operating them. A federal judge ruled that the company must provide fish passage and that trucking fish around the dams would not suffice. And just recently another report came out that said the earlier economic analysis (by a Davis-based company) was flawed. This latest report suggested that two of the dams might be economically beneficial to PacifiCorp. We must keep the pressure on PacifiCorp to remove the dams if we want to restore the Klamath as a premier salmon river.

Battle Creek The State of California will remove five dams on Battle Creek to improve salmon and steelhead spawning habitat. The five dams are located between Manton and the Coleman National Fish Hatchery. The remaining three dams will continue to be operated by PG&E to produce power.

Game warden shortage The Department of Fish and Game continues to suffer from a severe shortage of wardens. Game wardens are sworn officers of the law who must deal with people (often armed) who are violating our fish and game

laws. Yet they receive just a fraction of the pay awarded to Highway Patrol and other police officers. Furthermore, the department is under funded to hire new wardens. The result is fewer wardens now than twenty years ago, despite the population growth since then. Write a letter to the governor – support more wardens for DFG.

Action Request From NCCFFF

Support Wild Steelhead Rich Zellman at The Rogue Angler in Ashland, OR is circulating a petition to gather support for a regulation that requires that Non-adipose fin-clipped steelhead (wild fish) must be released all year. Present regulations instituted in 2005 allow wild fish to be harvested from Jan. 1-April 30 and from Dec. 1-31, 1/day, 5/year. Fishing pressure has increased to the point of causing great concern for the health of winter run fish. The season is open for adipose fin-clipped (hatchery fish) the entire year. Letters and support e-mails should go to: Rich Zellman, The Rogue Angler, 165 Lithia Way, Ashland, OR 97520. rich@therogueangler.com

Support Wild Salmon It's a new Congress - and we have a new chance to recover endangered Pacific Salmon in the Mighty Columbia & Snake Rivers!

On March 12, Representatives Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Thomas Petri (R-WI) introduced the bi-partisan Salmon Economic Analysis & Planning Act (SEAPA) in Congress with more than 30 House co-sponsors.

Consider that: (1) we are wasting billions of taxpayer dollars on failed federal "recovery" plans; (2) hundreds of scientists support removing four costly dams on the lower Snake River as perhaps the only way to restore this world-renowned fishery; (3) just THREE sockeye salmon survived to return to their Idaho spawning grounds in 2006; (4) up to 90% of Snake River salmon are killed by federal dams as they migrate to the ocean, and (5) the courts have ruled the last three federal salmon plans are illegal.

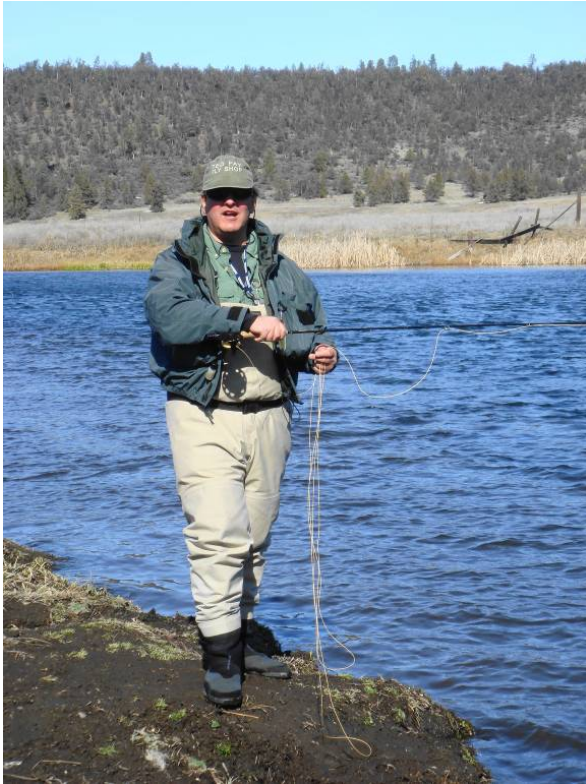
Isn't it time to invest in a real recovery plan that works?

The Salmon Economic Analysis & Planning Act (SEAPA) will get us the information we need to understand the costs and benefits of removing the four lower Snake River dams, and to craft an effective recovery plan that restores healthy salmon and steelhead populations to our Northwest rivers and West Coast communities.

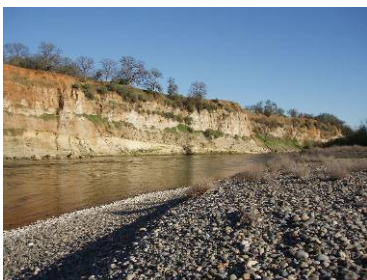
CLICK HERE TO TAKE ACTION NOW --
<http://ga0.org/campaign/newsalmonplanningact>

Thanks to Donn Erickson for these wonderful shots from the Baum Lake trip three weeks ago.





And big thanks goes out to Brian Bechtold for these pictures from last week's Lower Sacramento float.





----- Outings Report -----

March has three scheduled outings. The first was to Baum on the initial weekend. Ultimately 12 members joined the group. On Friday 9 of us faced cool weather but active fish on the surface. A variety of methods worked with pt type flies just under the surface being the most effective. Friday evening featured a very enjoyable cookout under Tom's tarps with some spectacular hors d'oeuvres (Gene's cheeses and Darwyn's deer sausage in particular).

Saturday dawned with no clouds but unfortunately the wind did come up. The fishing was even better with midges, dries and whatever all working at one time or another. Saturday evening's meal followed cocktails at camp and was at a Burney eatery found by John Daniels which was both good and had a pleasant atmosphere.

Sunday was more good weather, less wind and even better fishing. There is no question that Baum has a lot of fish and is a wonderful venue to hone techniques, as the fish are constantly changing what they are keying on. Presumably we will return next winter and it would be expected that another good turnout will be present. Thanks also to John Imsdahl for arranging a Steve Vaughn clinic and Steve for giving us some very helpful tips (particularly to change flies and try pt like flies without beads stripped slowly just under the surface during a hatch).

The March meeting will include signups for the rest of the Spring and a good portion of the Fall. There will be a Pyramid trip in April with the date tbd, along with the trips for which signups were out in January. - [Cary Boyden](#)

2007 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Trinity	Steelhead	Jan 8 th - 9 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip (per day)
Baum Lake	Trout	Mar 2 nd - 4 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Redding Sacramento	Trout	Mar 17 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip
Iron Canyon	Trout	Mar 30 th - Apr 1 st	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Payne Ranch - (overnight)	Bass	Apr 30 th - May 1 st	Donn Erickson 707-718-7724	
Shad	Shad	May 25 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Payne Ranch	Bass	May 26 th	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	
Frenchman Lake	Trout	Jun 1 st - 3 rd	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
McCloud	Trout	June 8 th - 10 th	Gene Gantt 707-451-3262	
Loreto, Baja, Mexico	Dorado / Sailfish	Jun 24 th - 28 th	Donn Erickson 707-718-7724	\$90 down by Feb 15 th
Fuller Lake	Trout	Jun 30 th	John Daniels 530-750-3511	
Lewiston	Trout	Jul 15 th - 17 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Annual Picnic	Stories	Jul 31 st	Lowell Ashbaugh 530-758-6722	
Old Fogies - Backpack	Trout	Aug 10 th - 12 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
Sierra Lake - Backpack	Trout	Aug 18 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
High Country - Backpack	Trout	Aug 22 nd - 25 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
Klamath	Half Pounders	Aug 29 th - Sep 1 st	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	Limited Space
Payne Ranch	Bass	Sep 22 nd	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	
McCloud	Trout	Sep 28 th - 30 th	Gene Gantt 707-451-3262	
Klamath	Half Pounders	Oct 5 th - 7 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	Very Tentative
Redding/Sacramento	Trout & Steelhead	Oct 13 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip
Delta	Stripers	Oct/Nov	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Trinity - or - Klamath	Steelhead	Nov 29 th - 30 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip (per day)
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Nov/Dec	Jon Knapp 530-756-9056	

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
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2009	Marge March	530-753-1583
	Donn Erickson	707-718-7724
COMMITTEES		
Outings	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826
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Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
Newsletter	Bob Beverlin	530-753-6805
NCCFFF	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
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Raffle Chair	John Imsdahl	707-448-7446
Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	(vacant)	
Youth Programs	Adney Bowker	530-758-2674
Video Library	John Reynolds	530-753-2682

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The Fly Fishers of Davis
P. O. Box 525
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The Fly Fishers of Davis (FFD) is a non-Profit 501.C.4 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](#)".

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