

# The Fisherman's Line

## Fly Fishers of Davis



P.O. Box 525 • Davis, California 95616

Member of:

The Federation of Fly Fishermen  
The Northern California Council of Fly Fishing Clubs

March 1979

Editors:

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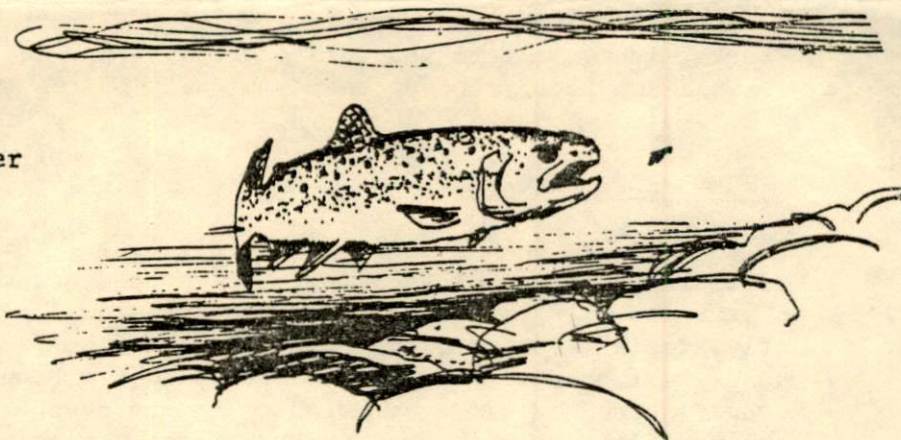


### MEETING NOTICE

Date: Tuesday, March 27th  
Time: 7:30 sharp!  
Place: Veterans Memorial Center  
14th & B Streets  
Davis

### BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 17th  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Bill Dill's home  
730 North Campus Way



### PROGRAM REPORT - California Hatches

Our March program on "California Hatches" will be presented by Brad Jackson, co-owner of the Fly Shop in Redding. Brad and his partner Mike Michalak have extensive experience flyfishing Northern California waters and offer expert guide service and fishing equipment through their shop. See their program description on the next page.

The raffle at our March meeting will include a Berkeley fly rod, a Berkeley line and an assortment of fly fishing appointment books. An oversight on my part, which will be corrected here, is to thank the Berkeley Company for their generous support at our annual dinner and to fellow member Bob Pye for arranging their donation.

Steve Ohrwall

## CALIFORNIA HATCHES - Our March Program

What is the most intimidating topic facing the average flyfisher? Many anglers would answer "aquatic entomology"...and rightfully so, because even pronouncing those syllables is a mouthful.

Despite its seeming complexity, the subject of aquatic entomology and its flyfishing applications need not be discouraging. The number of really significant species of western insects, from a flyfishing standpoint, is not all that large. And being able to distinguish individual species is often unnecessary.

The real value in understanding something about flyfishing entomology lies in the application of that understanding to fishing situations, and using your knowledge to help choose appropriate patterns, strategies, and tactics. "California Hatches" is a presentation designed to assist you in doing just that - understanding something about identification of important California aquatic insects, as well as knowing something of their behavior and appearance in both immature and adult stages. Characteristic habitat of each important group of insects is dealt with, and accompanying strategies appropriate for specific conditions are emphasized.

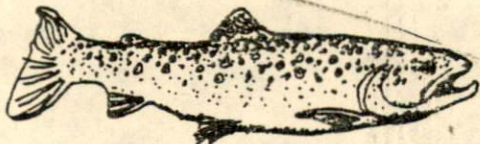
One of the difficulties that faces the beginning angler is fly selection in relation to the imitation of particular, commonly encountered trout stream insects. The groups of importance will be discussed in relation to specific fly patterns found to be productive. For the fly tyer, where design is also a consideration, materials selection and fly construction will also be discussed.

Finally, geographic distribution of significant California hatches will be given some attention in the program. General hatch dates and times will be discussed in relation to some of the blue ribbon waters in our state.

There you have it....the gist of "California Hatches." The presentation certainly won't turn you into a professional aquatic entomologist, but it should convince you that the complexity of the topic is not that immense.

### THE HOPEFUL REPORTER

This has been a dull time for fishing. Most of the streams are high and discolored. A proposed trip to the Merced was canceled because of rain. But it is said the eight mile stretch below El Portal, available for winter fly fishing, can sometimes be very good from December through March if weather and water conditions permit. With flow from the dam diminished (no irrigation water needed in winter), Putah creek has been at an excellent level for winter fly fishing. Unfortunately, the stream remains turbid and thick patches of bog like silt will be found in many spots near the shore where the bottom was formerly rocky or hard pan. All this silt, apparently caused by heavy winter storms year before last has had a bad effect on the fishing and insect life - and there may be other reasons. When I was there on a beautiful day a week ago there was no hatch at all that I could discern. About 4:30 p.m. a few trout started nymphing. I tried several nymph patterns including a favorite gold ribbed hare's ear. The one strike I had was on a large black weighted woolly worm with a red tag fished with a sinking tip line. Streamers were ineffective, including muddlers, and using dry flies seemed hopeless. More reports on Putah's dismal situation would be welcome.



Pyramid Lake remains a possibility, although a brave party of our members partially froze there last month in an effort which brought in only one smallish cutthroat. But the warmer days of March and early April might bring improvement. Only a very few fishermen are having luck on the American, although one person reportedly has caught seven steelhead there.

Member Mike Monroe of the Fly Hutch (2713 El Camino Ave., Sacramento, 487-8127) suggests trying Rancho Seco for blue gills and small large mouth bass. Use a sink tip line, he says, and no. 18 pheasant tail nymphs or no. 12 Carey's special (pheasant body, copper wire, dyed brown partridge hackle, 12 wraps 1 amp. wire). Mike says Baum Lake is also producing when the weather is good. Try no. 16 hare's ear midge pupa, no. 16 and 18 brown or light colored paraduns, no. 6 black nosed dace streamers, and muddlers. A note in the Stanislaus Fly Fishermen indicates that fishing on the King's River in the fly fishing only section, between Avocado Lake and Weir Dam, has been good. It takes two hours to get there from Modesto. Suggested patterns are hare's ear and shrimp.

Anyone having additional fishing reports of interest please call me or Arlen Feldman soon. We need to spread the news among the faithful. The days are getting longer and the red gods are calling!

Dick Blanchard

#### CONSERVATION NOTES - LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS



In the last issue of the FFD newsletter, a line or two was omitted from the first paragraph. It should read: Minimum size limits will be 18 inches in Hat Creek and 14 inches in Hot Creek with a two trout per day limit. Martis Lake will have a 0 limit, catch and release only.

The Board of Directors of FFD (through the Conservation Chairman) responded to a letter from State Senator Bob Wilson concerning his ideas on trout management in California. We suggested that each fishery needs special study to determine the most effective regulations for catch and release areas. We mentioned that we would prefer to see some action on the originally proposed wild trout program, which involved some 17 streams, than support legislation on establishing new areas. Senator Wilson proposed that 25 miles of streams be put under wild trout management each year. We stressed the need to beef up enforcement of DFG regulations in light of increased netting, snagging, poaching, and takes of over limits, and suggested legislation to increase penalties for such violations. It was also pointed out that increasing the number of areas with special regulations increases enforcement problems (ala Putah Creek), requiring more wardens. Some 15 warden positions were to be eliminated from the new budget.

Senator Wilson has prepared a draft on trout fisheries (SB 192) which appears on the following page:



TEXT OF SB 192--TROUT FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION  
ADDING CHAPTER 7.2 TO THE FISH AND GAME CODE

1725. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that it is the policy of the state to:

- (a) Establish and maintain wild trout stocks in suitable waters of the state which are readily accessible to the general public as well as in such waters in remote areas.
- (b) Establish regulations designed to maintain the wild trout fishery in such waters by natural reproduction.
- (c) Make a complete biological and physical inventory of California trout streams and lakes to determine the most suitable regulations for each stream or lake. For each body of water a determination shall be made regarding whether it should be managed as a wild trout fishery, or whether its management should involve the planting of trout. In making such inventory, priority shall be given to the more accessible waters.
- (d) Develop management plans for all trout streams and lakes. Priority in the development of such plans shall be given to those streams and lakes where public use is heaviest, which are inhabited by rare species, or which are threatened by activities endangering the quality of the fishery. Such management plans shall include an assessment of the resource status, threats to the continued well-being of the resource, the potential for resource development, and a plan for the development of each stream or lake to its full capacity as a fishery, including necessary changes in the allowed take of trout. Public hearings shall be held regarding each stream or lake before its management plan becomes final. For the purpose of this Chapter, "trout" includes steelhead trout.

1726. In order to provide for a diversity of available angling experiences throughout the state, it is the intent of the Legislature that the commission shall establish a program to develop catch and release fisheries in the more than 20,000 miles of trout streams and approximately 5,000 lakes containing trout in California. As part of this program beginning in 1980 and continuing thereafter:

The department shall establish an ongoing program to determine the viability of various forms of catch and release regulations for trout streams and lakes. Catch and release fisheries means, for the purpose of this section: zero-limit, where all trout would be released by the angler; 1 trout limit; 2 trout limit. In conjunction with determining the best management tools for 1 or 2 trout limits, the department shall consider minimum and maximum size limits.

The department shall each year prepare a list of no less than 25 miles of stream or stream segments and at least one lake that it deems suitable for consideration as catch and release trout fisheries. This list shall be submitted to the commission for its consideration at the regular October commission meeting. Such recommendations by the department shall give highest priority to designating trout waters as zero-limit trout fisheries during seasons presently closed.



The commission may remove any stream or lake which it has designated as a catch and release fishery from the program at any time. If any such waters are removed from the program, another stream or lake of a comparable size shall be added to the program.

The commission shall in January of each year submit a report to the Legislature regarding the progress in implementing Sections 1725 and 1726 of this Chapter. In such report the commission shall state its reasons why any stream or lake listed by the department as suitable for consideration as a catch and release fishery was or was not included in the program. The commission shall also state its reasons for removing and replacing any waters within the program.

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Club members wishing to comment on this bill should write Senator Bob Wilson, California State Senate, Sacramento, California 95814.

Thirty-five signatures were obtained on the petition brought to the last FFD meeting protesting the proposed cuts in the DFG budget. All of the post cards (10) on the same subject were signed and mailed and all of the post cards (6) protesting the proposed closure of a fish hatchery in northern California were signed and mailed. Copies of the petition were duplicated and sent to E.C. Fullerton, Director of DFG and to State Senator Jim Hielsen, who represents our district.

W.C. Schnathorst  
Conservation Chairman

#### CALENDAR OF FFD EVENTS

Board Meetings: Second to last Tuesday of each month, except August (gone fishing).

Regular Meetings: Last Tuesday of each month, except:  
January - Annual Dinner  
July - Picnic Dinner meeting  
August - No meeting

Upcoming Meeting Programs: April meeting - Shad by Mike Mainz  
May meeting - Truckee River Study by Fish and Wildlife Service

Upcoming Outings: April?? - Pan fish at Clear Lake? Speak up if you have any ideas.  
May 26, 27, 28- Hat Creek - reserve a place now at Burney Falls St. Park.  
June 23 & 24 - BBQ and Fishout with Northern California Fly Fishing Clubs at Lake Almanor

Special Event: June 12th - Doug Swisher Seminar, SMUD Bldg., General Purpose Room, 1708 59th St., sponsored by Davis, Sacramento, Stockton, and El Dorado Clubs, 7:30 p.m., \$2.





EFFECTIVE WING HEIGHTS



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