

Fly Fishers of Davis<http://www.FlyFishersofDavis.org>

Volume 51 Issue 12

The Fisherman's Line

December Meeting, Tuesday December 13, 2022 7:30 pm @ **Stonegate Country Club** Fly Fishers Of Davis Presents : **Home Grown & White Elephant Gift Exchange**

*T*his month, Tuesday December 13, at Stonegate Country Club, we will get together for our Annual FFD Homegrown program.

FFD – Home Grown Program:

White Elephant Fly Fishing Gift Exchange, Fly Tying, and Fishing Demonstrations

This year our home grown meeting will consist of our annual board business, a white elephant fly fishing gift exchange for those who elect to participate, Fly Tying, and Fishing Demonstrations.



To participate in the Fly Fishing white elephant gift exchange:

1. Each player must bring one gift (wrapped) fly fishing related gift (maximum value of up to \$15) to contribute to the pool.
2. Players will draw numbers to determine the order they will choose gifts.
3. The first player picks a gift from the pile and opens it. (Everyone sees the gift)
4. The following players can choose to either pick a new gift from the pile or “steal” a previous player's gift. (Limit - a present can only be stolen once per turn; after two swaps the turn comes to an end.)

After all players have had their turn, the first player has a chance to swap their gift that he or she is holding for an opened gift.

[**Three Swaps and the Gift is Out.** If a present gets stolen three times, it's out of the game and the person who holds it gets to walk away with it. The gift theme is “Fly Fishing” / angling related.]

The meeting schedule has been tentatively set for the next few months. Andan Bailey is the program chair - let him know if you like the program speakers or if you have ideas for one at programs@flyfishersofdavis.org

| Fly Fishers of Davis 2022 Meeting Schedule | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| MONTH | SPEAKER | DATE | TOPIC |
| December | Club Members | December 13 | Home Grown |

IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DETAILS

Website Members: If you signed up for membership on the new FFD website, you will get an email in the late December/early January timeframe with your renewal details. No need to go to the website before that, so please wait for your renewal information email.

Website Non-members: If you're an FFD member, but you did not sign up on the website and you wish to renew your Membership, please stop by the membership table at our next in-person general meeting, and pay your dues with check, cash, or credit card for 2022. You can also send a renewal check to Fly Fishers of Davis, P.O. box 525, Davis, CA, 95617.

Note: our preferred method is for website non-members to become website members, by signing up on the website!

Dues for adults and families are still \$30/year, and the student rate is \$15/year. Your dues help to fund almost all club activities — including our superb array of guest speakers, outings, the annual picnic, fly casting and fly tying clinics, our amazing FFD 101 classes, Salmon in the Classroom, and best of all, our contributions to numerous outreach, education And conservation organizations.

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support!



Fly Fishers of Davis is now on Facebook! Like Us and Follow Us to get the Latest updates on Club Events and other News.

[Facebook.com/FlyFishersOfDavis](https://www.facebook.com/FlyFishersOfDavis)



CONSERVATION REPORT

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Conservation Mailing List Want to keep up on conservation issues in between newsletters? Join the FFD Conservation Google Group list. Click [here](#) for instructions on how to join, and search for “FFD-Conservation”. Or send an email to Ashbaugh.lowell@gmail.com with your request.

Note: If you’d like to try your hand at writing a conservation column, please let me know. I’d like to find someone to start taking over this role. I’ll help get you started.

The rain last week was certainly welcome and needed, but Jay Lund cautions that the drought may continue for another year. The full story is at [California WaterBlog](#), but here are some highlights.

“After three years of drought and two dry months, plus two wet weeks, into California’s “wet” season for 2023, California has become unsettlingly settled into this long drought. Most cities have decreased their water use, some more than others. Agricultural fallowing has been modest statewide, but large in the Sacramento Valley, with major economic effects in areas depending on rice-growing. Impacts to native fish and forests have been accumulating, and are dire in some cases.”

Mr. Lund goes on to point out that reservoir levels are low, there is little to draw on if this winter remains dry, and much of the water that is in the reservoirs is needed to flush salt water out of the Delta.

Water storage on the Colorado River is especially low and may jeopardize the ability to use some dam outlet structures this year.

It’s too soon to comment on the precipitation so far this year. We are overall at 85% of the average in the northern Sierra for this time of year, but it’s very early in the water year (October to September). The snowpack is above average, but again it’s early.

The likelihood of another dry year is high enough that we should prepare for more drought, especially with reservoirs and groundwater supplies being low.

Groundwater levels continue to decline, and replenishing them will create problems for agricultural users for many years after this drought ends.

I’ll quote Dr. Lund’s final observation. *“Ecosystems impacts of drought remain California’s sector with the least drought management success. For waterbirds, we seem relatively well organized and mostly successful. But not for most fish and forests, with post-drought impacts extending for many years from wildfires and more species becoming more endangered.”* This does not bode well for fishing enthusiasts.

Dr. Lund’s recommendations include complete implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to monitor and manage groundwater use. Further, there’s a growing urgency and unavoidability of reducing urban and agricultural water use, and to rationalize environmental water management and rural water supplies.

So be prepared for continued drought and possible management options to stretch California’s water supplies in the coming year.

NOAA Fisheries has a story on their plan to restore habitat in the Klamath Watershed as the dams come down (starting in 2024). NOAA, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and Trout Unlimited have released a [detailed plan for restoring habitat](#) in a key portion of the watershed, i.e. the stretch of the Klamath River above Iron Gate Dam and below Link River Dam.

The report lists nearly 200 projects having high, medium and low priority along 63

miles of the Klamath River and 39 miles of tributaries. The projects include 82 potential habitat restorations, 78 potential fish screening projects, and 38 potential flow restoration projects.

You can read the NOAA news story at [NOAA Fisheries](#).

Happy Holidays to all of you, and I wish you the best in 2023!



By Mark Rockwell, President, December, 2022

This has been a very crazy few weeks. We celebrate a very successful Yuba Fest up in Sycamore Ranch park on the Yuba River, the Project Healing Waters online auction, and the final approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the surrender of the license to operate the Klamath hydropower project from PacifiCorp to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation. **All of these were historic for different reasons.** I will give some thoughts on all:

Yuba Fest - October 15 & 16

Without question, this event was a success for our clubs, for fly fishing as a sport, and for NCCFFI. We worked hard, with Clay Hash's leadership and Gold Country Fly Fishers volunteers to make this an event we'd be proud of and for attendees to have fun and learn. More than 200 attended including our teaching sessions on fishing the Yuba River, fishing technical waters, learning to fly fish, and how to fly cast. The fly casting skills development program was a big hit with the leadership of Russ Carpenter & Sarah Trenchel and other certified casters from the Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club. People enjoyed a good lunch and daytime music from the Harmony Grove Band, and a BBQ dinner of Tri Tip, Chicken or a vegetarian lasagna with trimmings. After dinner we were treated to the music of Karrie O'Neil, a Reno, NV singer/songwriter. Sunday was a day long course of fishing technical waters with Clay Hash, where technical casting and techniques to use on waters like spring creeks. It was a great weekend!



Klamath River License Surrender - The Dams are Coming Out!

"After more than 100 years of being dammed, the lower Klamath River will flow free once again" said Dr. Mark Rockwell, President of Northern California Council, Fly Fishers International (NCCFFI) in his press statement on November 17, 2022. It has taken decades of advocacy by Native American Tribes who depend on a living Klamath River for their cultural identity and food security, as well as the states of California and Oregon, the dams' owner, federal agencies, and several nonprofits, including NCCFFI, to navigate the lengthy planning, fundraising, regulatory and project design processes. But finally on November 17, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved the hydropower License Surrender to remove four dams from the Klamath River.

The Klamath was once a highly productive salmon river with one million fish returning to the river each year. The dams changed that creating a river chocked with toxic algae (cyanobacteria), breeding fish-killing parasites and water too warm to support its natural fishery. In 1918, the Copco 1 Dam was completed, cutting Klamath salmon off from the upper part of the basin. Over the next 44 years, three more dams were built (Iron Gate, Copco 2, and J.C. Boyle dams) on the river in California and Oregon, effectively closing off 400 miles of habitat to salmon and steelhead, ultimately resulting in dramatic fish population declines. Removing the dams will end these problems. The fish will be able to return to habitat they have not seen for a century. Cyanobacteria will be no longer be a problem – it does not persist in flowing water. The beautiful Klamath River will be better able to sustain life.



Barring any further interruptions, pre-construction will start in the summer of 2023, with the first dam - Copco 2 - coming down by the Fall. The other 3 dams - Copco 1, J.C. Boyle & Iron Gate - will be removed by October, 2024. That will begin a 7 year process to rehabilitate and restore the watershed, and monitor the process. The hatchery now at Iron Gate will be closed and operations will move to the newly rehabilitated hatchery on Fall Creek. This will operate for up to 7 years, with the hopes that in-river spawning will provide enough natural salmon to support closure by the end of 2031.

It is impossible to convey the essence of this accomplishment. My personal involvement now spans 20 years, with a break between 2015-18, when Lowell Ashbaugh stood in for NCCFFI. Lowell held the flag high and keep our voice in the effort. Thank You, Lowell!!

I've spent thousands of hours on calls, zoom meetings, on-site meetings in Oregon & California, and written hundreds of articles, given more than 30 presentations inside and outside the fly fishing world, and given talks to community service groups and clubs all in the grand hopes that we would prevail. It is with great pride and happiness that I can say - ***We Did It!*** In the end, the Tribes, fishery and river watershed are the great winners, for they are the ones who had the most at stake. We fly fishers had to be part of the advocacy effort that made this happen, and the Northern Calif. Council, FFI took on the challenge. We can all take pride for that effort. FFI members, fly club members, and those who gave time & money over the years are all thanked to have contributed to Lowell and I being able to represent our community. We are humbled by this support and by all those we worked with to make this happen. It did not come without great effort.

President Teddy Roosevelt knew what it takes:

“It is not the Critic who counts.....The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by the dust & sweat & blood. Who strives valiantly. Who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid soles who know neither victory nor defeat.”



International Sportsmen's Expositions (ISE) presents the largest sportsmen expos in three western states. For decades these consumer events in Colorado, California and Utah have presented the destinations, products and services that outdoor enthusiasts are seeking. The 2023 ISE Show in Sacramento will be held starting Thursday, January 19th through Sunday, January 22nd at Cal Expo located at 1600 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento, CA. The show will feature hundreds of companies in multiple buildings covering a wide array of outdoor activities & destinations including fishing & hunting, lodges & resorts, travel & destination groups as well as outfitters and guide...and much more. Attached please find "Fast Facts" about the 2023 ISE Sacramento Show.



The Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International (NCCFFI) will be participating in the Sacramento ISE Show with a 10 x 20 booth at our new location (booth #3812 in the Pavillion Building). The NCCFFI plan is to engage with as many outdoorsmen (and women) who are interested in the sport of fly fishing as much as possible, learn where they live and connect them to the fly fishing club(s) nearest to them to help them get actively involved in fly fishing or expand their knowledge. As in years past, NCCFFI will host the Fly Tying "How-To" Center where interested fly fishers can come, see, learn & interact with expert fly tyers at work creating inspired flies that catch fish.



People will be coming from throughout Northern California, southern Oregon & western Nevada to the largest presentation of outdoor sports related travel destinations, outdoor gear and services.



Please come and join us at the International Sportsmen's Show in Sacramento in January. This promises to be a great event!

For more information go to the International Sportsmen's Exposition website (www.SportsExpos.com) or the NCCFFI website (<https://www.nccffi.org>).



UTINGS & EVENTS FFD

2023

| <u>Trip 2023</u> | <u>Fish</u> | | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Fishmeister</u> | <u>Contact</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pyramid Lake | Trout | | Feb 9-12 | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Lodge/Hotel |
| Lower Yuba Walk Wade | Trout | | TBD Feb | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Day trip |
| Pyramid Lake (Spring) | Trout | | TBD Feb, March | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Hotel / Camping |
| Baum Lake | Trout | | TBD March-April | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | |
| Delta Bass N Fly Tournament | Black Bass | Boat | May 20 | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Boater pair with non boater |
| Hat Creek 101 | Trout | | May 5 - 7 | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Camping |
| Lake Berryessa | Mult. Sp. | Boat | TBD April - May | Peter Hawes | hawsheatair@gmail.com | Boater pair with non boater |
| Lower Sac Float (Spring) | Trout | Guide | TBD | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Fee + Tip |
| FFD Casting Clinic | | | TBD | Bob Zasoski | rjzasoski@sbcglobal.net | Instructor: Jeff Putnam |
| Shad Sac or Feather River | Shad | Boat | May | Peter Hawes | hawsheatair@gmail.com | Boater pair with non boater |
| Fuller Lake | Trout | Boat | May | Shawn DeArmond | | |
| FFD Annual Picnic | | | TBD | Tristan Leong | abailey2006@comcast.net | |
| McCloud River | Trout | | Prop June/July | Peter Hawes | hawsheatair@gmail.com | Camping |
| Umpqua River | Smallmouth | Guide | August | Gene Gantt | fishinggantt@comcast.n | Fee + Tip |
| Manzanita Lake Trip | Trout | | August | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Floatation Device / Camping |
| Lake Davis | Trout | Boat | TBD | Need Fishmeister | | Camping |
| Lewiston Lake | Trout | | TBD | Need Fishmeister | | Camping |
| Lower Sac Float (Fall) | Trout | Guide | TBD | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Fee + Tip |
| Delta Striper Fest 2023 | Stripers | Boat | October 7 | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Boater pair with non boater |
| Luk Lake | Trout,Bass | Boat | TBD December | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Fee |
| Trinity River Steelhead | Trout | Guide | TBD November | Dana Hooper | trouthookup1@gmail.com | Fee + Tip |

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The Fisherman's Line is published by:

The Fly Fishers of Davis

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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. FFD meets monthly. Our regular monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except for December, and other exceptions are noted in our newsletter. December meetings are held the second Tuesday to accommodate holiday schedules.

FFD is an affiliate club of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), an international nonprofit organization, and its Northern California Council (NCCFFF) affiliate. FFD 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

Each month, the e-newsletter will be posted to our website and emailed about one week before the meeting.

You may need to download Acrobat reader at:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/> to view our PDF newsletter.

Members are urged to maintain their current email address and other important personal data by logging in, and visiting:

<https://flyfishersofdavis.org/account/>. This ensures accurate communication and notification of our monthly newsletter, which is also downloadable at:

<https://flyfishersofdavis.org/media/newsletters/>.

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

How to become a member of the Fly Fishers of Davis

FFD collects annual dues for adults (\$30), students (\$15) and families (\$30). Family membership may include a spouse and children living with named member up to maximum age of 25. All family members will share one membership and username. Please be sure to provide a valid email address. For insurance reasons, you must be a current club member or registered family member to attend any of our fishing outings.

- **[Membership Benefits:](https://flyfishersofdavis.org/about/membership-benefits/)** For more information about the many benefits of FFD membership, please go to <https://flyfishersofdavis.org/about/membership-benefits/>
- **[New Members ONLY:](https://flyfishersofdavis.org/memberships/)** To join FFD, please go to <https://flyfishersofdavis.org/memberships/>
- **[Existing Members, Login and Dues Assistance:](mailto:webmaster@flyfishersofdavis.org)** email webmaster@flyfishersofdavis.org
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