



August Meeting: Tuesday August 25, 2026 7:30 pm @ Stonegate Country Club

919 Lake Blvd, Davis, CA 95616

Joe Garza presents: Eagle Lake Rainbows in the High Desert

*T*his month, Joe Garza, owner of J.A.G. Fly Fishing, will join us to share his experience on Eagle Lake. He's been refining his techniques there for the last 20 years, and he's one of the few Lassen National



Forest permit holders for guiding Eagle Lake for fly fishing. Joe will share some history of the area and the techniques that have performed well in targeting the elusive Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout. The lake fishes best in the late Fall through the cold months of winter, and Joe will share how to properly prepare for the frigid winter fishing temperatures.

Joe is more than just a guide — he's a teacher, mentor, and dedicated steward of the fisheries he calls home. Born and raised in Northern California, Joe developed his passion for fishing on the streams and creeks around Paradise. Spending his early years exploring the region's foothills and diverse waterways, he built a deep connection to the outdoors and a strong foundation in the waters he now guides. Joe earned his California Guide License in 2014 and launched J.A.G. Fly Fishing.

THE PREZ SEZ

By Ron Rabun

Reports about Delta fishing for largemouth bass have been good using surface flies. So buddy up with a member with a boat and get out there. September has been marked as the beginning of the winter trout bite in NorCal rivers. In my 50 years fishing the Upper Sac and McCloud, it seems trout begin feeding more because the days are shortening. Reports have the Truckee fishing well from Boca down to Reno, so Tahoe area streams are a good bet. My favorite two-fly short-line nymphing patterns are Bead Head Gordon Prince, Pheasant Tails and Hare's Ears, sizes 14, 16 and 18. Similar Euro patterns are also effective.

Our August FFD Board meeting was very productive in forming an Aquarium Chiller Committee and approving a fund-raising plan to cover \$20,500 worth of new equipment. We intend to replace all current chillers and pumps for approximately 35 classroom aquariums within our Salmon and Steelhead in the Classroom Program. Heading up the Committee is Matt Perry, FFD Secretary. If you have any questions about the program, or would like to make a donation, Matt can be reached at matthew.deremore.perry@gmail.com. We are currently formulating an aquarium donation/sponsorship amount whereby you donate a single aquarium upgrade, and your sponsorship will be placed on a classroom's aquarium. More info on this is coming soon. As President, I have committed to sponsoring the first aquarium under this project, and I encourage other FFD members to follow. The Committee has a stellar plan and our hope is to obtain the goal within the next few months or possibly before the first 2026 egg distribution.

NORTHERN CAL COUNCIL FLYFISHERS INTERNATIONAL (NCCFFI) AND FFI FFI FLY FEST (September 25-26, 2026) still needs volunteers. Go to NCCFFI.org to find out more. You can volunteer for 4 hours and get \$50 discount on any full event registrations. FFI is offering a one-year new FFI membership for only \$25, \$15 off the regular membership amount. Here's a chance to become a FFI member and attend the Fly Fest at a discounted rate. The NCC newsletter is available online at NCCFFI.org. NCC upcoming events are: FFI FLY FEST, September 24-26, 2026, Redding Convention Center, NCCFFI Hall of Fame Dinner/Auction, Mark Rothwell inductee, TBD, October, 2026.

NAME BADGES

Don't forget to pick up your new FFD name badge at the next meeting. Keep your badge in your car or stored conveniently to wear it proudly to meetings and events. Inside the badge holder there are two FFD decals that have the member's name. Members can use one as a vehicle decal by cutting the name portion off. If you want to purchase additional FFD decals they are available at the meetings for the price of 2 for \$5. If you aren't coming to the meetings regularly, you can email President@flyfishersofdavis.org and we will mail your badge so you have it in hand for future use. It is our goal to have the badges distributed to everyone by the October regular meeting. So please contact President, Ron Rabun to get your badge.

Beginning at the September 2026 regular meeting, we will be holding a drawing of a fly box with flies to all those members wearing their badges. Please come up to me prior to the start of the meeting, and you will receive a ticket for the Badge Drawing conducted following the regular drawing. The Board has approved this pilot Badge Drawing for 3 meetings (Sept, Oct, Nov) to determine the effectiveness of badge participation. What an easy way to win a box of flies!

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: I’m still looking for someone who would like to take up this column, preferably someone a few years younger than me. It’s not hard, but it will take a couple of hours each month to put the column together – less if you’re more organized than I am. I’ll help you get started.

Lake McCumber is a nice little lake just west of Lassen Volcanic National Park where many of our club members have fished. It’s formed by a dam on Battle Creek, and is part of the broader Battle Creek Hydroelectric Project, owned and operated by PG&E. A nice summer camp, Camp McCumber, has operated adjacent to the lake ever since I can remember. It was also used by the Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International for the June annual meeting and retreat.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the project expired on July 31, and PG&E has decided not to renew it. Since no group or entity has volunteered to take over ownership of the project, the McCumber Dam, along with the North Battle Creek Dam, could be removed in the years to come — quickly draining the existing reservoir and fundamentally changing the community that surrounds it.

Isabel Klopchic and her husband, Kim Walters, president of the Lassen Pines Mutual Water Company, have organized the grassroots project [Save Lake McCumber](#), are trying to preserve the dam and the reservoir behind it. They also hope to preserve a second dam that forms the [North Battle Creek Reservoir](#), an associated body of water within the same hydroelectric system, which sits north of McCumber.

In early 2025, at a meeting of the [Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy](#) — an organization of local residents which oversees all parts of the broader watershed — local residents including Klopchic and Walters discussed the impacts of PG&E’s decommissioning of the hydroelectric project. There, they formed an ad hoc committee and began formalized meetings for an organization to save Lake McCumber and the North Battle Creek Reservoir.

Walters noted that the Save Lake McCumber group, which includes around eight active committee members, hosts regular meetings around once or twice a month, and it reaches out regularly to local community members as well as involved organizations, politicians and stakeholders to increase support.

The group, many of whom are knowledgeable long-term residents of the area, are in support of removing most dams along the watershed, many of which block fish passage, causing environmental harm. However, they say that the McCumber and North Battle Creek Dams should be preserved because they sit above the fish migration limits and provide tangible benefits for the local community. Much of the group’s motivation for saving Lake McCumber is tied to the recreational experiences and sentimental value the lake provides for local residents.

[CalTrout](#) and [American Whitewater](#), alongside other groups such as American Rivers, Trout Unlimited and California Sport Fishing Protection Alliance, usually support the removal of dams, which can block fish passage and impact water temperatures. But representatives from both organizations agreed that McCumber and North Battle provide an exception to this typical environmental perspective, as the two dams are upstream of the natural anadromy of the fish — meaning the area where they migrate and utilize the habitat to reproduce. There's much more information available at [Shasta Scout](#), an online newsletter based in Redding.

[Golden mussels](#) have become the latest invasive species to threaten local ecosystems with disaster. They have quickly spread across the Delta and many of California's lakes and waterways. They multiply fast and can clog water intakes.

A Davis-based company, Invasive Species Corporation, has developed a biodegradable treatment that kills golden mussels without damaging surrounding environments. ISC is getting ready to test the product, called [Zequanox](#), in Stockton. Zequanox is already being used on quagga and zebra mussels, so ISC is seeking authorization from the EPA to label it for use with golden mussels. Zequanox uses a bacteria that kills the mussels without injuring other aquatic life. It reminds me of bacillus thuringiensis that kills tomato hornworms without harming other organisms in the garden. There's a little more to this story at [Stocktonia](#).

[Prairie Creek](#), on the north coast near Arcata, is one of the last refuges for California Coastal Chinook, Northern California steelhead, and coho salmon. The creek had been damaged by human activity, though, leaving young fish less habitat to feed and shelter. Conservationists have been working for more than a decade to repair the creek, transforming a former lumber mill into wetlands and floodplain where young salmon can grow before heading to the ocean. To me, it's reminiscent of the Yolo bypass project to provide habitat for salmon in the Central Valley.



*Prairie Creek Restoration
Credit: Cal Poly Humboldt*

Juvenile coho salmon using the restored habitat are growing faster than fish remaining in the main creek, and researchers say that in some places the difference has been dramatic. "In certain sites and certain years, the fish using restoration sites grew up to twice as fast," [said Carter Adamson](#), who studied the fish growth at Prairie Creek. Cal Poly Humboldt researchers have monitored the salmon before, during, and after construction. The faster growth is attributed to an increase in survival rates of young fish returning from the ocean from about 1% to 2.6%. Read more about this project at [Good News Network](#)

[Adopt A Classroom!](#) For many years, FFD has sponsored the Classroom Aquarium Education Program. We fondly call it "Salmon in the Classroom". It's one of the most effective conservation programs we have, and it needs funding. The equipment is getting old and is in need of replacement. The Board of Directors is working on obtaining funding from outside sources, but is also offering an opportunity for members to contribute. It's a great way to teach kids about the need for cold, clean water and habitat for fish. If you're able to contribute, contact Matt Perry, FFD Board Secretary at (530) 304 0705 or matthew.deremore.perry@gmail.com. Note, though, that FFD is a 501(c)(4), so your dollar donations are not tax-deductible.

CASTING FOR RECOVERY SWEEPSTAKES!

By Nicole Lazarus, CFR Fishing Coordinator

To all our friends at Fly Fishers of Davis:

Help support Casting for Recovery, and get the chance win a 2026 Ineos Grenadier Trailmaster — complete with Off-Road Rough Pack, plus \$10k cash for registration, taxes and other fees. The total value of this prize is close to \$100k. The winner will work with their local Ineos dealer to customize the vehicle to their liking.

Scan the QR code below for details. Through the QR code, our Northern California CFR chapter will receive 70% of the proceeds from your ticket purchase.



This is a great way to donate to Casting for Recovery with the possibility of winning a prize. The more tickets you purchase, the more bonus entries you get.

For example:

- \$25 gets 18 entries + 4 promo entries
- \$100 gets 90 entries + 18 promo entries

The sweepstakes runs through 12/1/26. The winner is drawn on 12/9/26.

FFD FLY CASTING PROGRAM

By Jeff Hogan

I just returned from a trip fishing the Williamson River in Oregon. I had a fantastic time catching wild rainbows and brook trout. One evening the wind came up and if I could not deliver my fly on the back cast, it would have been a frustrating and tough fishing experience. What really made for a successful evening was my ability to double haul while presenting the fly on my back cast. My loop narrowed, my line speed increased and I could cut through that wind and accurately put the fly at the edge of the undercut bank...BANG!

That evening cemented my plan to introduce the back cast delivery using a double haul at the August 30th casting clinic, held at Northstar Park from 9:00 AM to noon. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need a loaner rod: casting@flyfishersofdavis.org



A calm evening on the Williamson



Success!

PAUL AND ANDAN'S GREEN RIVER ADVENTURE

By Paul Berliner

In mid-July, Andan and I travelled to the Green River, close to Dutch John Utah, for three days of fly fishing through the famous Flaming Gorge. The trip was hosted by Ben Sittig, the one and only Huge Fly Fisherman, and including Ben, there were six participants on the trip.

The Green River fly fishing options include three sections. The "A" section starts immediately below the Flaming Gorge Dam, and is the most spectacular canyon section. The "B" section starts at the takeout of the A section, and also runs through gorgeous canyons (and the largest rapid). The "C" section is farthest down river, with the weediest banks and flats. Each section is probably seven to nine miles in length, and each is full of beautiful Browns and Rainbows.

We fished C on our first day, A on our second and B on our third and last day on the Green. Weather varied between sun, clouds and a few sprinkles, and of course, the friendship and camaraderie was exceptional. As you'll see, we had a little chocolate surprise on our last day.



Our Little Cabin at the Red Canyon Lodge



At the Launch – Section A



Andan casting – Section C



Andan closely checks out his Brown



Smile, Darlin'



Paul fires away – Section B



Ben knows how to catch as well



Cruising through the Gorge



No explanation required



Sunrise at the Lodge



They certainly are gorgeous



Off you go



Big ones, small ones ... all's good on the Green



A small blowout on our last day

FLYFEST 2026 IS COMING TO REDDING

[From Flyfishers International](#)

Fly Fishers International's [FlyFest 2026](#), presented by The Fly Shop, returns **September 24–26** in Redding, bringing anglers together for three days of learning, connection, and celebration in Northern California's trout country.



As FFI's signature event, FlyFest welcomes anglers of all ages and skill levels. Held at the Redding Civic Auditorium, the weekend features expert-led presentations, casting and fly-tying demonstrations, and a vibrant consumer trade show, all designed to create meaningful opportunities to learn, connect, and share in the culture of fly fishing. Fly Fishers International is proud to announce that **George Daniel** will be joining FlyFest 2026 as our Headline Presenter. At FlyFest 2026, you'll have the opportunity to learn directly from George through presentations, demonstrations and workshops. Register at [FlyFest 2026](#).

One simple registration includes access to all core programming, with optional small-group seminars available for those looking to go deeper. The event concludes with a community dinner and fundraising auction in support of FFI's mission and conservation efforts. Rooted in education, community and stewardship, FlyFest is a gathering fly anglers won't want to miss. This year we're doing something different by inviting the FFI community to shape the event.

FFI FLY FEST still needs volunteers. Go to [NCCFFI.org](#) to find out volunteer offers. You can volunteer for 4 hours and get a one-day pass. Or get \$50 discount on full event registrations.

Photo of the Month



Mousing on the Madison

MEETING SCHEDULE

The meeting schedule has been tentatively set for the next few months. Peter Hawes is the program chair. Let him know if you like the program speakers, or, if you have ideas for one, please let us know at the next meeting. You can email him at programs@flyfishersofdavis.org.

Fly Fishers of Davis 2026 Meeting Schedule			
MONTH	SPEAKER	DATE	TOPIC
August	JAG Fly-Fishing	August 25	Eagle Lake - Rainbows in the High Desert
September	Dave Gumpel	September 29	Golden Dorado
October	Johnny Feaster	October 27	Berryessa
November		November 17	Custom Rod Building

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DETAILS



Website Members: If you signed up for membership on the 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 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. You can also send a renewal check to Fly Fishers of Davis, P.O. Box 525, Davis, CA, 95617.

Note: Our preferred method for renewal is to become website members, by signing up on the website! Dues for individuals and family memberships are \$35/year, and a student membership is \$10/year. Your dues help to fund many 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 support!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Your FFD Board of Directors (BOD) meets once per month on the second Tuesday of each month (effective February 2026) to discuss many aspects of the club, including charitable contributions, conservation, budget planning, and the Annual Picnic and Annual Dinner. If you'd like to attend a board meeting, bring up an issue or send a message, the BOD meets in Davis, and welcomes your feedback! Since meeting places may change, please contact a board member or club officer for time and place details if you would like to attend.



UTINGS & EVENTS - FFD 2026

PROPOSED FFD OUTINGS & EVENTS

Trips & Events 2026	Species & Info	Dates	Contact	Notes
Casting Clinic	Jeff Hogan Instructor	August 30	Jeff Hogan	Northstar Park 9-12
Striper Fest	Stripers	Oct / Nov	Dana Hooper	Boater pair w/non-boater

Here's a link to NCCFFI
Website, Calendar of
Events and Membership.



FLY FISHERS | NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Jeff Putnam's
Fly Fishing Instruction
On-Demand! Email: jeff@jpflyfishing.com
Phone: 1-541-299-0086

FLY FISHING SPECIALTIES
Wild Rivers To Blue Waters
6360 Tupelo Drive, Citrus Heights, CA, 95621
916.722.1055 info@flyfishingspecialties.com
www.flyfishingspecialties.com



Find us on
Facebook

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



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 meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except for December, and other exceptions are noted in our newsletter. FFD meetings and membership are open to the public. The Fly Fishers of Davis provide equal opportunity membership without discrimination on sex, race, origin, age or religious orientation.

OFFICERS			DIRECTORS		
Term: 2 years			Term: 3 years		
President:	Ron Rabun	Through Dec. 2027	Stuart Meyers	Through Dec. 2026	
Vice President	Dana Hooper	Through Dec. 2027	Marc Wilson	Through Dec. 2026	
Treasurer	Andan Bailey	Through Dec. 2026	Peter Hawes	Through Dec. 2026	
Secretary	Matt Perry	Through Dec. 2026	Dan Galloway	Through Dec. 2027	
			vacant	Through Dec. 2028	
			Dan Brugger	Through Dec. 2028	
COMMITTEES					
Outings	Dana Hooper	Programs	Peter Hawes	Youth Fish Camp	Andan Bailey
Conservation	Lowell Ashbaugh	Hospitality	Dave Fujino	Casting	Jeff Hogan
Membership	Vacant	Raffle Chair	Peter Hawes	Website	Bob Beverlin
Newsletter	Meyers /Wilson	Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	Website	Paul Berliner
NCCFFI	Ron Rabun	Youth Programs	Adney Bowker		

E-Newsletter Policy

Each month, the e-newsletter will be posted to our website and emailed prior to the meeting. To view our PDF newsletter, download Acrobat reader at: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>. 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/>.

How to become a member of the Fly Fishers of Davis

FFD collects annual dues for individual memberships (\$35), student memberships (\$10) and family memberships (\$35). 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 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. For more information or if you have questions, please email membership@flyfishersofdavis.org

- Membership benefits: go to <https://flyfishersofdavis.org/about/membership-benefits/>
- New members ONLY: to join, go to <https://flyfishersofdavis.org/memberships/>
- Existing members, login and dues assistance: email webmaster@flyfishersofdavis.org

Important: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter's articles are those of the respective authors only, and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the Fly Fishers of Davis Board of Directors, or the club's general membership.

Newsletter Submissions: To send articles and photos etc. to be included in the newsletter, email all materials to newsletter@flyfishersofdavis.org. Please put *FFD The Fisherman's Line* in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month. Not all submissions will be published.