

FLY LINES & FISH TALES



March 2011

Current Activities (Tracy Fly Fishers) Calendar

Our next Meeting is March 16. Guest speaker will be Bob Alexander of Rainbow Bend Guides and Outfitters

Bob's presentation will be on fishing Streamers for Trout and Steelhead. Bob's home water is the Lower Deschutes River in Central Oregon.

Meeting location is the Transit Station at 50 E. Sixth St



Join our guest speaker for dinner before the meeting!
Dinner will be at *Thai Cafe* at 614 Central Ave. at 5:00pm, only a block away from the meeting!

Let's support our local merchants!

Bob Alexander: I'm celebrating my 33rd year of guiding in 2010, the last 17 years on the Deschutes. I'm originally from Flagstaff, Arizona where I started out as a whitewater raft guide rowing 14 day trips through the Grand Canyon. This is why I love multi-day trips so much - time to relax and spend lots of time with your line in the water. To me even a three day trip is too short! I've guided many casting schools, walk in trips, day trips and multi day trips. Some for our local fly shops but mostly for local outfitters on many rivers in Oregon including The Rogue River, Santiam, Crooked, McKenzie and more. Many of these days were spent with an emphasis on education. Whether it's your first time flyfishing or you think you've mastered that presentation of your favorite fly to the fish, there's still more to be learned and lots of fun to be had doing it!! From the newcomer to the sport to the most experienced, my job is first and foremost is to cook you a great lunch! Just kidding!! Really, it's to get you down the river safely. (But a great lunch helps!) Next is to have as much FUN as possible and finally, to catch fish. So don't just think about it. Make your reservation now and -----
Let's go fishin!

IT IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME.

It is not too late to renew your dues! Yearly dues (January 1-December 31) are \$30.00 per family. Dues are used to support TFF, local conservation organizations with donations, maintain our program schedule including Trout in the Classroom as well as fund administrative needs of the club. You can renew your membership with Bonnie or go to the website www.tracyflyfishers.org

Speaking of members: please welcome our newest club members. Be sure to introduce yourselves to our newest members at the next meeting. At least show them that you don't bite and that you are willing to work on your people skills. And if you do bite, please wear a muzzle to the next meeting.

Also, if you know any former members or members who have not been to a meeting in awhile, invite them back! The members are the life blood of our club!

The Prez sez...

Greetings Tracy Fly Fishers.

The Pleasanton Fly Show has come and gone, reminding us that the fishing season is not that far away. I enjoyed talking with old friends and acquaintances while checking out the items on my "Wish List". I also picked up some pointers on fly tying from the talented tiers at the show and it was good to see that the TFF was well represented.

This past weekend we held a planning meeting at the Banta Inn. Many topics were covered and some committees were formed to advance our position on Membership, Education, Golden Trout and Marketing/Promotion. If you would like to be involved in any of these areas, please contact me to be connected to the chairperson. The April Board Meeting will cover the budget as it stands now and will set out our financial course for the rest of the year. Any interested please attend.

I want to take the time to announce that Corey Cate has stepped down from the Conservation Chair. Corey has been diligent in the past years to keep many, if not all, of the conservation issues that affect our sport and the natural resources of our state in front of us. Whether it was by email or club report, there was always information coming forth so that we might choose to become more involved in the issues. I know that he has dedicated a great deal of time and personal sacrifice to stay up on the area of Conservation and I want to say a hearty "Thank You" to Corey. Thanks also to Susan for her support of a very good man.



Rod Buchanan, who currently chairs the Trout in the Classroom project, has agreed to step forward and fill the Conservation Chair. Rod leadership abilities have been evident since he joined the TFF and his passion will continue to bring insight and opportunity for the Club members to put "Boots on the Ground" in conservation projects.

If you have not done so, dust off your equipment for the upcoming season and mark your calendars for the club outings and carpool with a friend. With gas prices as they are, there will be no excuse for going fishing alone!

Tight Lines,

Stan

Join fellow TFF Members for breakfast at the Banta Inn
Saturday, March 26 at 9:00am.

A great way to meet your fellow club members and maybe even hook-up for a fishing trip.

BOARD MEMBERS

President
Stan Elijah (209)815-4657
Vice President/Secretary
Ben Byng (209)832-1866
Treasurer & Membership
Bonnie Small (209)239-5415
Webmaster
Michael Carlson (925)634-6274
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Chuck Robbins (209)835-7812
Programs
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Raffle
Bob Kiffin
Outings
George Strickland
(925)858-7017
Meetings & Refreshments
Pat Ferguson (209)835-2981
Trout in The Classroom
Rod Buchanan
(209)815-0062
Conservation
Corey Cate (925)245-1359
Education
Rick Clemmons
Newsletter
Stephen Holtzclaw
(408)674-4065



[One Pebble Can Make A Lot of Waves Video](#)

On March 16, the [Tracy Fly Fishers](#) Meet at 7:00 PM
at the Transit Station located at 50 E. Sixth St.

Fish Outs-George Strickland

The 2011 calendar is looking good. Do you think it is too early to be planning trips for next year? George certainly doesn't.

Our next outing will be at White Pines Lake celebrating the opening of trout season. If you are interested, get more information and sign up at the next meeting.

Casting in the Park-Chuck Robbins

Casting instruction at Dr. Powers Park with certified casting instructor Chuck Robbins returns again next month. Join Chuck on the second Wednesday of the month starting at 6pm.

Trout in the Classroom-Rod Buchanan

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The students will be releasing the trout they raised in their classrooms on Friday, March 25 at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton.

Volunteers are needed to help with the release. Volunteers are also needed to demonstrate various aspects of fly fishing to the students. This has always been a very inspirational experience, witnessing the excitement of the students!

Call Rod at (209)815-0062 for more information if you can help out.

The Northern California Council of the Fly Fishing Federation announces that the Hall of Fame Dinner will be on April 9th, 2011 at the Silenus Vitners (in their wine cellar?) located at 5225 Solano Avenue in Napa, CA. Come join in the celebration as the 2011 Hall of Fame Inductee will be James Adams.

Openings on the TFF board: Looking for a growth in your participation with the club? The club is in need of a few brave individuals to share the raffle chair responsibilities- hand holding is not required for these positions. This is a great opportunity to get to know your local fly fishing shops and their proprietors. Consider giving back to the club by increasing your direct participation. No one will be turned away. If you are remotely interested, please see Stan.

The nekkid fish page- only the bravest submit photos of their fishing prowess
Living vicariously through the fruit of others' adventures



Steve Holtzclaw with a nice Eagle Canyon rainbow

Hidden Talent Sought!

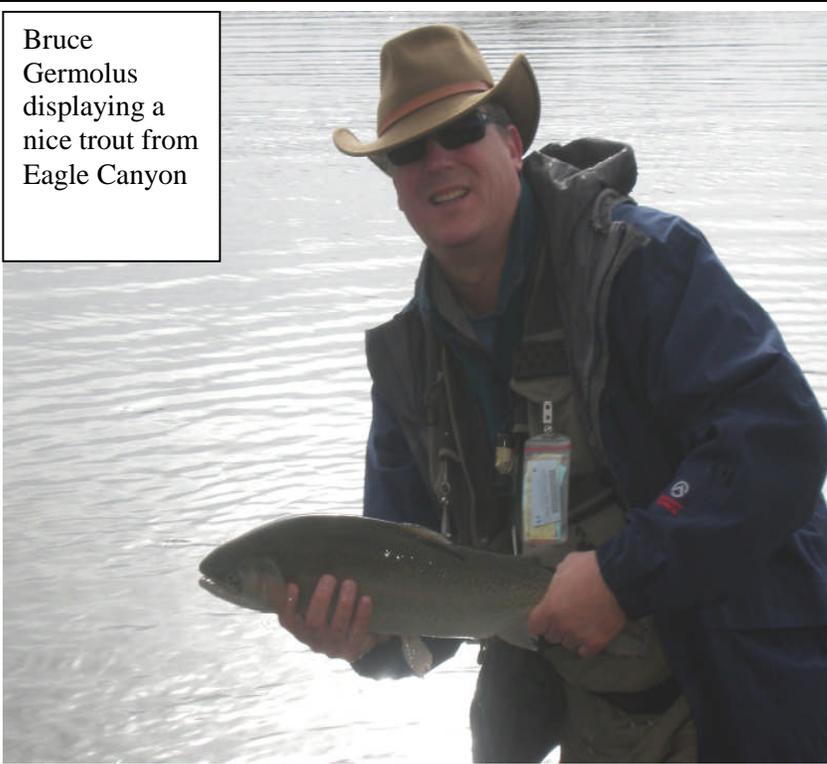
Would you like to contribute to the monthly newsletter?

Do you have pictures of your latest outing or a good story to share?

Send your submissions to

stephenholtzclaw@comcast.net

Bruce Germolus displaying a nice trout from Eagle Canyon



Pat Ferguson releases a real beauty!



State Water Board Declares: “No Water Shortage.” Issues New Water Rights.

Posted on [March 2, 2011](#) by [Bill Jennings](#)

As farmers and cities complain about receiving fractions of their contracted water deliveries and Central Valley fisheries collapse from lack of flow, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) has declared there is ample water to supply new applicants. Following a 1 March 2011 hearing on a proposed permit, the State Board issued new water rights to the cities of Woodland and Davis for 45,000 acre-feet of water diverted from the Sacramento River. The California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA) strongly opposed the permit.

Both Davis and Woodland had allowed the groundwater, upon which they depend for domestic consumption, to become polluted. To avoid the costs of constructing facilities to treat water to acceptable water quality standards, they applied for a water right to divert better quality water from the Sacramento River.

CSPA protested the original application for water rights. The State Board held an evidentiary hearing (testimony, cross-examination and rebuttal, all under oath) on 18 January regarding CSPA’s protest.

CSPA submitted extensive written testimony buttressed by 40 exhibits documenting that the Sacramento Basin is over appropriated and that any additional diversion of water will further harm already degraded fisheries and water quality. Bill Jennings and Chris Shutes provided oral testimony during the evidentiary hearing. Mike Jackson served as CSPA counsel. CSPA provided additional comments on the draft order.

State Board documents reveal that the Board has already issued water rights to eight and a half times the median unimpaired runoff in the entire basin. In the recent Delta flow hearings, the SWRCB found that half of the unimpaired flow into the Delta was diverted upstream or exported at the giant pumps of the federal and state projects in the Delta and that 75% of Sacramento River unimpaired flow (and 60% of San Joaquin River flow and up to 75% of Delta outflow) was necessary to restore the serious degraded pelagic and salmonid fisheries of the Central Valley.

The State Board has essentially managed California water rights as a giant Ponzi scheme. Given the massive over-appropriation of water in the basin, the Davis/Woodland water represents either an embezzlement of water from senior water rights holders or a further reduction in the already inadequate amount of water provided fisheries lingering on the brink of extinction.

The State Board is incapable of telling applicants for more water that they’ve already given it all away. It is painfully clear that until the rights granted for water are brought into balance with actual available water - a process called adjudication - California cannot begin solving its water crisis or restoring the Delta and Central Valley fisheries and water quality.

Huge jump in California salmon predicted for 2011

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) -- California could see a return to a full-length coastal salmon fishing season this year with biologists forecasting a tripling of the fish's ocean population, state fish and wildlife officials said Tuesday.

The agency is projecting 729,000 salmon in coastal waters in 2011, up from a 2010 projection of 245,000 fish, Department of Fish and Game spokesman Harry Morse said.

If actual salmon numbers come anywhere close to the latest forecast, West Coast salmon fisherman could see their first good catch in years after cancelled seasons in 2008 and 2009 and a shortened season in 2010 led to hundreds of millions of dollars in losses, according to department estimates.

"Good news for a change," said Fish and Game Deputy Director Sonke Mastrup. "Salmon numbers are projected to provide some real opportunity for sport and commercial anglers."

The department announced the preliminary figure Tuesday at a meeting in Santa Rosa. Federal regulators next week will evaluate the data and come up with a final number to make recommendations on the length of this year's season, Morse said.

The department cautions the actual number of salmon counted by the 2010 season's end was fewer than half what was predicted. Estimates are based on information about the number of salmon that returned to spawn in California rivers, the number of fish spawning in state salmon hatcheries and a sampling of the current ocean population.

The prediction for this year's ocean population is based mainly on the number of adult Chinook salmon in the Sacramento River fall run, which despite being smaller than expected saw a return to more normal levels after major drops in 2008 and 2009.

The department of fish and game calls the Sacramento River fall run the "main driver" of coastal commercial and sport salmon fishing.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council is set next week to consider its recommendations for the length of this year's salmon season, with a final decision set to come later in the spring.

California fish and game officials are making preparations based on expectations that the season could start as early as mid-April off the Humboldt County coast in Northern California, Morse said.

Some fishermen worried that despite the higher number of salmon heading upriver, the fish must still traverse the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta before returning to the ocean. Environmentalists and fishermen blame pumps in the delta that channel water to many of the state's farmers for the salmon's sharp decline.

"I'm just a little bit worried that as a forecast by itself it probably overestimates the health of the fishery," said John Beuttler, conservation director for the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance. "You have to be very careful you don't overharvest them. The salmon season has to be set on a conservative basis."

The state's other major adult salmon population, found on the Klamath River, is projected to top 370,000, up from a forecast 331,500 in 2010.

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The Tracy Fly Fishers' Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Safeway grocery store's Community Room at 1801 W. 11th Street. The next board meeting will be held on April 6, 2011. The Board meetings are open to all TFF members. Board Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Stop by and see what goes on "behind the scenes" of your club!

Wish to make a difference locally? The Delta is our backyard. Check out the CSPA website and sign up for their action alerts at:

[CSPA, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance](http://CSPA.CaliforniaSportfishingProtectionAlliance) or www.calsport.org/



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**Next meeting is March 16, 2011 7 pm at the
Transit Station in the conference room**