

FLY LINES & FISH TALES



Current Activities (Tracy Fly Fishers)

Our next meeting of the Tracy Fly Fishers will be on Wednesday, December 21.

Bring a friend or neighbor!

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

December Member's Night

December's meeting is when our members have the chance to share their special memories of the past year!

Whether it is a special fishing trip, a great times with friends or just a memorable location, share it with the club.

This is your chance to show off your creativity and share these great adventures. Please keep your presentation to 5-10 minutes and have it on a DVD in jpeg format.

If you have a presentation, please show up to the meeting a little early so that we can get your presentation into the agenda.

Support your local Parks and Recreation District

Parks Make Life Better! Parks and recreation make lives and communities better now and in the future by providing access to the serenity and inspiration of nature; outdoor space to play and exercise; facilities for self-directed and organized recreation; positive alternatives for youth which help lower crime and mischief; and activities that facilitate social connections, human development, therapy, the arts, and lifelong learning.

Check out our Parks and Community Services Video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwFAe7V8pio&feature=channel_page

Tracy Fly Fishers Annual Crab Feed and Installation

Dinner

Save the date: Saturday January 7, 2012!

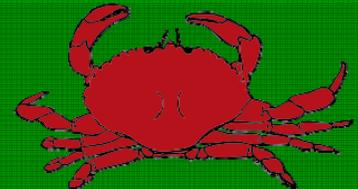
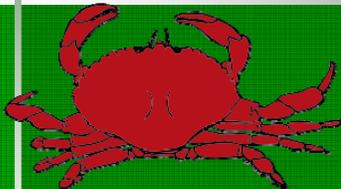
The best crab feed in Tracy!

Door prizes

Card Raffle

Silent Auction

Live Auction



Tickets are only \$35 a person

For tickets contact Bonnie Small at (209) 239-5415

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.CaliforniaSportfishingProtectionAlliance or www.calsport.org/

The Prez Sez

Christmas carols fill the air and that jolly old Elf is right around the corner. I hope that you will all be surrounded by family and friends this Christmas season, as we reflect on all the blessings of the past year and prepare for 2012.

Our December meeting is one I always look forward to as the members bring out their photos from trips this past year to share with the club. It gives all of us inspiration and ideas of what we can do and where the fish are. I would especially encourage our new members to come and reintroduce yourselves and share your adventures with the us. Just have your DVD in jpeg form and depending on the number of presenters you will have 5-10 minutes to show off you trip(s).

If you are donating any items for the Installation Dinner raffle or auction, please bring them to the December meeting. This will give Bob and Gary a chance to get them cataloged and ready for the dinner. The Club appreciates your generosity and your help in funding many different activities throughout the year.

Crab season is going well so there should be plenty for an awesome Installation Dinner, just three weeks away! Get your tickets and tell your friends and help us fill the room. It is a wonderful event giving you a chance to break bread with friends and acquaintances, sharing stories and a wonderful meal while raising funds for the Club.

There are two weeks left of the 2011 so if you can, get out with a

friend and chase that final fish of the season. I have had a couple opportunities to be on the water with Rod Buchanan and have enjoyed the trips immensely. He has gotten me onto fish each time and is a great captain with his hospitality and willingness to instruct. Watch for and bid on his "Fishing with a Buddy" trip at the dinner!!

As I close out my responsibilities as President, I want to say a heart felt "Thank you" to the Board and all the members of the club for your support, friendship and the willingness to work on what makes us successful, it could not have happened without you. I have learned a great deal about the club and its members this year and look forward to building on those relationships in the future. Remember that it is **YOU** who make the club run so **If YOU** want to get involved, please do so. New blood on the Board is welcome and you will be one of the building blocks that will take us to the 20 year mark and beyond.

See you on the water!

Stan



Delta Sunrise

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Casting in the Park -Chuck Robbins

Casting in the park is over for the season. Look for Chuck to start offering casting instruction on the second Wednesday of the month once Daylight Savings Time returns next Spring.

Club Outings-

Watch for the listing of club outings for 2012. There will undoubtedly be some exciting outings coming up in the new year. In the meantime, talk to some of the club members and see if you can't organize a day of fishing. This is a great way for any of the newer members to the club to learn new waters or techniques.

Conservation News

Major Victory for CSPA: East Bay MUD Abandons Plan To Raise Pardee Dam

Posted on [December 6, 2011](#) by [Chris Shutes](#)

The East Bay Municipal Utilities District has thrown in the towel and will no longer pursue a plan to raise Pardee Dam. Pardee Dam, which backs up the Mokelumne River in Amador and Calaveras counties, creates Pardee Reservoir, EBMUD's largest storage reservoir. EBMUD's decision removes a threat to drown another two or more miles of the Mokelumne. The decision also prevents another increment of diversion that would have reduced inflow to the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta.

The decision follows a successful lawsuit filed in 2009 by CSPA, Friends of the River and the Foothill Conservancy. A favorable ruling on the case in April, 2011 compelled EBMUD to redo the Environmental Impact Report for its Water Supply Management Plan. The new EIR, released on December 6, has taken the controversial dam raise off the table until at least 2040.

In a press release issued December 5, EBMUD stated that a potential new partnership with Contra Costa Water District in sharing costs and benefits at an expanded Los Vaqueros Reservoir was an important impetus for its major policy shift. Los Vaqueros Reservoir is located west of the Delta in Contra Costa County. CSPA and its partners strongly advocated that EBMUD evaluate a Los Vaqueros alternative in its first EIR. In speeches to the EBMUD Board of Directors in 2009, CSPA dismissed past disagreements with CCWD as old history, and called out the convergence of values and interests between the two districts as a huge opportunity. The trial judge cited failure to look at partnership with CCWD on Los Vaqueros as a major flaw in EBMUD's environmental review.

In addition to the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, the Environmental Water Caucus and American Whitewater were consistent advocates against raising Pardee. Perhaps decisive was the near unanimous opposition to the dam raise in the counties in which Pardee Reservoir is located. The local opposition included both boards of supervisors, water purveyors, and dozens of individual citizens who packed EBMUD meetings to oppose further expansion of EBMUD facilities. Local opposition was largely organized by Foothill Conservancy, whose operation is centered in Amador County.

Richard Sykes, EBMUD's recently appointed director of water and natural resources, met on several occasions with opponents of the Pardee raise. Mr. Sykes worked tirelessly to find an alternative that meets the reliability needs of the district while protecting the Mokelumne River. He and his immediate staff deserve considerable credit for breaking the impasse to find a better outcome this time around.

Wanger cuts legal ties to Westlands Water District

By John Ellis - The Fresno Bee

Tuesday, Dec. 06, 2011 | 02:57 PM

Retired federal judge Oliver W. Wanger did an about face Tuesday, deciding not to represent the Westlands Water District in a case now pending before a state appellate court.

A legal brief last week showed Wanger had signed on to defend Westlands in a lawsuit filed by several Northern California groups.

The move sparked intense debate about judicial ethics because as a judge, Wanger had presided over dozens of legal disputes involving Westlands. Though the agency lost as much as it won in those cases, some people felt Wanger had crossed an ethical line by representing Westlands.

Wanger – who stepped down as a judge at the end of September – said in an interview that the ethics debate was "diverting attention away from the merits of the case."

Wanger also made it clear that the debate had nothing to do with his decision to withdraw from the case. His new firm – Wanger Jones Helsley – said in a statement to The Bee that "recent media comment has raised confusion about the cases upon which former Judge Oliver W. Wanger may work as a private attorney."

"He cannot work on cases involving matters he heard as a judge. The rules do not prevent him from taking cases involving parties who previously appeared before him. No conflict or violation of any rule has occurred."

Tom Birmingham, general manager and counsel for Westlands, said in a statement that the agency "regrets that we will not have the benefit" of Wanger in the case.

"But we have the highest respect for his integrity and appreciate his strict adherence to the most exacting standards of legal ethics," the statement said. "His decision not to proceed with this matter is entirely consistent with the meticulous attention he applied to all aspects of the law during his long career in the federal judiciary."

Birmingham concluded by saying Westlands hopes to work with Wanger in the future.

In this case, the North Coast Rivers Alliance, Friends of the River, Save the American River Association and the Winnemem Wintu Tribe in the Mount Shasta area sued both Westlands and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, saying the two agencies failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act – known as CEQA – when interim water contracts were renewed. Westlands won in Fresno County Superior Court, and the four plaintiffs appealed that ruling.

Though he had officially been appointed as a counsel, Wanger's firm said in its statement that "neither [Wanger] nor the law firm has provided any legal service whatsoever to the Westlands Water District in the state appellate case or in any other matter, nor is Westlands a client of Mr. Wanger or the firm."

Still, Wanger said in an interview that Westlands has a right to seek the legal representation of its choice. Said Wanger: "Everybody deserves their day in court."

The opinions expressed in the articles appearing within the Tracy Fly Fishers' monthly publication, "Fish Lines And Fish Tails" are those of the writer/author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions or view of the Tracy Fly Fishers and/or its official representatives. Permission is granted for parts of this newsletter to be reproduced. We only ask that credit be given to the author and the Tracy Fly Fishers as the source.

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Next meeting is December 21, 2011
7 pm at the Transit Station in the
conference room