



# Main Stream

Mission Peak Fly Anglers

PO Box 7263 • Fremont, CA 94537



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## March 2013 Club Meeting

**PLACE:** Silliman Community Activity Center  
6800 Mowry Avenue, Newark CA 94560  
510- 742-4400

**DATE:** **Wednesday, February 27th** (Note day and date)

**TIME:** **6:30 pm**

**PROGRAM :** Henry's Fork Area

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\*\*\*\*\* UPCOMING FUTURE EVENT \*\*\*\* *Annual Installation Dinner* on [January 25th 2014](#)

### Upcoming Events

- Fri. Mar. 15 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Wed. Mar. 20 **Fly Tying Night** 7:00 PM, Fremont Activity Center, 3375 Country Dr., Fremont
- Wed. Mar. 20 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Livermore, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
- Thur. Mar. 21 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, San Jose, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
- Wed. Mar. 27 **Club Meeting** - Silliman Community Activity Center, 6:30 PM
- Wed. April 3 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Livermore, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
- Wed. April 3 **BOARD MEETING** 7:00pm Fremont Activity Center, 3375 Country Dr. Fremont
- Fri. April 12 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Sat. April 13 **CLUB BREAKFAST:** At the Denny's in Hayward on Whipple - 9:00 AM
- Wed. April 17 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Livermore, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
- Wed. April 17 **Fly Tying Night** 7:00 PM, Fremont Activity Center, 3375 Country Dr., Fremont
- Thur. April 18 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, San Jose, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
- April 19-21 Bidwell outing (Cost for 2 nights and 5 meals is \$80 + gas) **\*\*Volunteers Needed\*\***
- Wed. April 24 **Club Meeting** - Silliman Community Activity Center, 6:30 PM
- Fri. April 26 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

**Mainstream** is the monthly newsletter of the Mission Peak Fly Anglers',  
P.O. Box. 7263, Fremont, California. 94537

### 2013 OFFICERS

|                           |                   |                        |                 |        |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| President                 | <b>Dean Lewis</b> | Board Member           | Ron Smith       | 1/2014 |
| Vice President            | Ed Huff           | Board Member           | Jan Van Zandt   | 1/2015 |
| Secretary                 | Craig Gittings    | Board Member           | Stephen Culp    | 2/2014 |
| Treasurer                 | Bill Peakes       | Board Member           | Bruce Butler    | 2/2015 |
| Past President Wayne Culp |                   |                        |                 |        |
| <b>Chairpersons</b>       |                   |                        |                 |        |
| Annual Dinner             | <b>Open</b>       | Conservation           | Steve Schramm   |        |
| Distribution              | Ray Gauthier      | Editor                 | Ray Gauthier    |        |
| FFF Rep.                  | Gene Kaczmarek    | Fish-Outs              | Jeff Lorelli    |        |
| Fly Casting               | <b>Open</b>       | Fly Tying              | Mitch Matsumoto |        |
|                           | <b>Open</b>       | Boy Scouts             | Jeff Lorelli    |        |
| Fund Raising              | Stephen Culp      | Graphic Design         | Ed Huff         |        |
| Video/Archivist           | Ray Gauthier      | Hospitality            | Kay Heyes       |        |
| Library                   | Dave Heyes        | Picnic                 | <b>Open</b>     |        |
| Programs                  | Ron Smith         | Raffle Chairman        | Dave Heyes      |        |
| Video Library             | Kris DeCossio     | Trout Bum Award        | Craig Gittings  |        |
| Web Master                | Ray Gauthier      | Fukumoto Award         | Mitch Matsumoto |        |
| Trout in the classroom    | Ed Huff           | Fly Fishing Volunteers | Ken Brunskill   |        |

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**MPFA Web Site**     <http://www.missionpeakflyanglers.org/index.shtml>

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**E-mail address list**

The club is compiling an e-mail address list for the use of club members. If you want your address included or wish to have a copy of the list, send an e-mail to Craig Gittings.

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## Notice

**Members**

The Newsletter will be coming out on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Send your articles or information to the editor by the 12<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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## President's Message

Here we are, already mid way through March with the first day of Spring just around the corner. Spring is upon us whether we are ready for it or not. Time doesn't slow down for any of us. Pretty soon, it will be summer and that will also pass too quickly.

The Board has tried to set up some fish outs that can involve any club member. It seems that it is difficult to meet the needs of everyone. For some, places may be too far away or be scheduled on the wrong day for you to participate. We are open to any and all suggestions. Don't hesitate to contact me or other Board members. Also, Jeff Lorelli, the Fishmaster can be contacted. See the last newsletter for Ed's suggestion for short notice fish outs.

I am glad to see that other members of the club have planned some fish outings over the next couple of months. True, they are either guide trips or private fish lodges and require a fee for either. There is getting to be more and more "pay to fish", so to speak, activities in the State. It can be difficult on the budget, but some of these activities can be very rewarding. For one, you can learn a lot from a guide or someone at a lodge about how, when, where and what is working for fish. You can then use these new skills to head out on your own and improve your own fishing.

Hiring a guide, to say fish the Lower Sac, has lots of advantages. They provide the equipment and do the work. You ride along and get to fish and learn the secrets of the river. If you are observant, you can spot places to return, on your own, and try your luck without having to use a boat. If you haven't tried it and have a few extra dollars to spend, I highly recommend using a guide now and then.

I would hope more members would organize a couple of guide outings, etc and venture out with other club members and have an enjoyable day fishing. It can open up a whole new world to you and really hone your skills.

**One more thing:** We are soliciting ideas on when and where to hold our annual picnic. Some liked the location last year. Some thought it was too far. Let us know, at the next meeting your ideas. Thanks.

**Dean**

## *Annual Trout Bum Award*

### **Starts Jan 1, 2013**

Awarded by MPFA Board of Directors at December board meeting

### **Requirements:**

Candidate must have fished 10 or more waters during the calendar year (no private pay to play waters). Waters may be tributaries of any river or lakes with the use of a fly only, and report to the club documented with photos during a regular meeting.

**Chairperson:** Ken Brunskill



Bruce Butler having a good time.

### **Veterans First Fly Fishing .....Attention Mission Peak Members**

### **Veterans First Fly Fishing**

Who would like to join us and be part of helping our veterans through this worthwhile program?

What you might ask is involved? It can be as little as a group of us going out to Livermore and and/or Menlo Park once a month to teach fly casting and fly tying to our wounded veterans. It could go as far as accompanying a group of veterans on a fishing trip to be their 'gillie' and personal assistant on that trip.

I have made the initial contact at Livermore VA Nursing unit and there seems to be an interest, but I cannot do it alone.

I'd bet we can get funding help from the FFF, NCCFFF, the Elks Lodge, Kiwanis, VFW, and other service organizations, all we need to do is give a little of our own time to those who have given so much for us. If interested please contact me, Thanks.

Ken Brunskill

**BUDDING FLY FISHING WRITERS**

Here is your chance to gain some experience writing about your fabulous fly fishing trips to places near and far. The club newsletter is seriously lacking in members written and photographic accounts of our fishouts. Of course you may not think a trip to Putah Creek is worthy of such notoriety, but remember, many members have never been there and would welcome a description of how your fishout went. And, as for a trip to Alaska or Baja, a story of your adventure would be most appreciated. Send articles to the editor.

**NOTE FROM TREASURER, BILL PEAKES** – Mission Peak Fly Angler’s patches and pins are available from Bill at a nominal price. New members should have received either a pin or a patch when they joined; if not, call Bill Peakes.

**\*\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*\***

The following are 4 overlooked guides/water access people who also donated to our annual banquet: Tom Knoth @ [yosemitesierraflyfishing.com](http://yosemitesierraflyfishing.com), Lincoln Gray @ [tie-fast.com](http://tie-fast.com), Bill Forward @ [forward-bound.com](http://forward-bound.com), and Roy Gunter of Goodwin Lake -google goodwin lake of california.

Steve Culp

**New Conservation Chairman**

The new Conservation Chairman is Steve Schramm. He has submitted an article which appears in this Newsletter. Enjoy the information that he provides to the club.

The Editor

## **Mission Peak Fly Anglers Board Meeting of March 6, 2013**

President Dean Lewis brought the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. In attendance besides Dean were; Ed Huff, Bill Peakes, Stephen Culp, Wayne Culp, Ron Smith, Jan Van Zandt, Ken Brunskill, Craig Gittings.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Minutes:** Bill Peakes motioned and Ron Smith seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2013 meeting. It passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Peakes reported that the club's finances were good.

**Web Site:** Dean Lewis reported that the transfer to the new web host, Go Daddy, was taken care of. Cost for 10 years was \$740, a savings of \$510. An invoice was presented and Bill issued a check.

**Budget Items:** Discussed and approved budget items: DVD Library, Fly Tying, and Veterans Program- \$200 for each and \$3000 for Guest Speakers for the 2013 year. Ken Brunskill sought and received board approval of \$100 for the annual Shadow Cliffs Veterans program. All local clubs were approached to help offset the costs of the event via a letter provided by Ken soliciting the donations. Craig moved and Stephen seconded the budget items. Motion passed.

**Trout in the Classroom:** It was reported that fish were dying prior to release this year. Frank Brash donated some of his healthy fish to other classrooms.

**Fish outs:** Feedback appeared positive on Ed Huff's proposal of establishing an email notification process for impromptu fish outs. Noted: That Jeff Lorelli had asked for full-fledged Fishmaster duties: i.e. carpooling, etc. Ed's reply, "It ain't gonna happen."

**Annual Picnic/BBQ:** Cathy Sechrist was contacted via phone during the meeting and responded that indeed last year's location was available. The crowd was not that unruly and welcomed back. When polled, some had mentioned travel distance as a concern, but otherwise a great place for the venue. (A Senior Citizen bus will be made available for those that cry the loudest along with samples of Depends from a local donor/vendor; unfortunately the bus is not taking you to the picnic). Location and date will be decided after polling members at the regular meeting.

**Rod Class:** Dean reported the class was going good and progressing along based on experience levels of the rod builders/restorers.

**Boy Scouts:** Plea was made for help on May 11, 18 at the Oakland Casting Ponds.

**Speakers:** Ron Smith is good and has folks lined up for a couple of months. Ron noted that he made some new contacts at the Fly Fishing Show and Hall of Fame Reunion dinner.

**Club Apparel:** Bruce was not available for discussion.

### **Board Member Items:**

Ed Huff brought up a camera issue at Fly Tying. Ed thought HD might work better. Ed suggested a "throat microphone" to cut down on the distracting chatter and comments that are background noise in the final version. Then it was noted that the members are viewing projection off the wall, because there is no available screen per conditions of use at the room for fly tying. Ed will report back, with his discovery, but a screen might be in order first.

With no further business, Craig motioned, Wayne resoundingly seconded, and the motion passed. The meeting was promptly adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Craig Gittings, Club Secretary

## Conservation News

by Steve Schramm

Unfortunately some subjects don't generate as much interest or attention as others. I can recall Larry Dennis describing his audience for the conservation report at the monthly club meeting as being similar to looking at a school of sharks with mouths yawning open and eyes rolled back in their heads.

In less politically correct days it was common to dress up the mundane or less interesting with a bit of eye candy to spark interest. One need only think back to the days of bikini clad models pushing machine bolts or some other boring schlock at a vendor show to get the picture.

Again unfortunately, I am neither Kate Upton from Sports Illustrated's Swimsuit Edition nor Channing Tatum from the film *Magic Mike*.



But I also don't consider conservation issues to be a pig that needs lipstick. I only have to look at all the hot sexy fishing gear that I own to realize that I have a vested interest in making sure that good sustainable fishing spots continue to exist well into the future. And hopefully, given the near \$100 fill up of my truck's fuel tank, some of those places won't be too far from home.

In gearing up to pick up where Larry left off, I had him put together a list of his favorite web links where he gleaned information on conservation issues to pass on to the club. I list them here so that those interested can access them as well, that is, if they have not already. And who hasn't? I mean what can be more interesting than parsing the Department of Water Resources web page on a Saturday afternoon?

[www.dwr.water.ca.gov](http://www.dwr.water.ca.gov) - This is the official website for the state Department of Water Resources. They have a newspaper clipping service sent out Monday through Friday with every article concerning water issues in the state. It's a great start for further research.

(Continued on page 12)

## Fly of the Month



Hook: size 6, 1X long, 1x heavy  
Body: poly yarn  
Back: tan craft foam  
Legs: silly legs  
Tail: rabbit strip

In February 2013, Ed Huff demonstrated tying the **Foam Hex Nymph Fly**.

[Foam Hex Nymph Fly Video](#)

## Monthly Programs

| Dated            | Speaker      | Program Title     |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Mar. 27th, 2013  | Andy Jenkins | Henry's Fork area |
| April 24th, 2013 | Ernie Gulley | Crowley Lake      |
| May 22nd, 2013   | Hal Janssen  | Fly Fishing       |
|                  |              |                   |
|                  |              |                   |
|                  |              |                   |
|                  |              |                   |

### March Program

March meeting will have Andy Jenkins presenting a guide service presentation on the Henry's Fork area and the fishing conditions in September to coincide with a club outing on the Missouri River in September. The Henry's Fork isn't to far way from the Missouri river !!

by Ron Smith

## THE JOHN FUKUMOTO FLY TYING AWARD

The criteria:

- Only current members of Mission Peak Fly Anglers are eligible.
- The fly must be presented and tied at a monthly fly tying session.
- Special consideration will be given to original patterns and unique variations of a standard pattern.
- The award cannot be won by an individual in consecutive years.
- Selection of each year's winner will be made by the current Fly Tying Chairman and two club members of his choosing.

## Outstanding Video

| Video No. | Title  | Author                  | Type                                 | VHS | DVD | Out Since | Borrower         |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|------------------|
| 91        | Tying Western Dry Flies                                | Lawson & Dennis         | Fly Tying, Intermediate              | X   |     | 1/25/12   | Bruce Butler     |
| 2         | The Fly Rodders Guide to Carp                          | Harry Reynolds          | Fly Fishing, Basic                   |     | X   | 5/23/12   | Makarand Vichare |
| 42        | MPFA Fly Tying w/Abellar & Gittings                    | Abellar Gittings        | Fly Tying, Intermediate              |     | X   | 5/23/12   | Makarand Vichare |
| 110       | The Best Knots for Fly Casting Systems Vol. 2 of 2     | Bill Nash               | Fly Fishing, Basic, Knots            |     | X   | 5/23/12   | Makarand Vichare |
| 6         | Great American Trout Streams                           | Trout Unlimited         | Travel - Western Rivers              |     | X   | 6/27/12   | Jeff Lorelli     |
| 58        | Tying & Fishing Caddis (2nd Copy)                      | Gary LaFontaine         | Fly Tying & Fishing, Caddis          |     | X   | 10/24/12  | Steve Brosamer   |
| 119       | Tying Nymphs & Terrestrials                            | A.K. Best               | Fly Tying, Intermediate              |     | X   | 10/24/12  | Dave Heyes       |
| 129       | Tying Bob Quigley's Signature Flies                    | Bob Quigley             | Fly Tying, Intermediate              |     | X   | 10/24/12  | Mitch Matsumoto  |
| 19        | Rivers of a Lost Coast                                 | Tom Skerritt            | History of Calif. Steelhead & Salmon |     | X   | 11/28/12  | Jeff Lorelli     |
| 3         | Skagit Master  | Ed Ward                 | Casting - Spey                       |     | X   | 1/23/13   |                  |
| 23        | Tying Western Trout Flies                              | Jack Dennis             | Fly Fishing, Basic                   |     | X   | 1/23/13   |                  |
| 45        | Learning to Tie Flies Part II                          | Dick Talleur            | Fly Tying, Basic                     | X   |     | 1/23/13   |                  |
| 62        | Lessons with Lefty                                     | Lefty Kreh              | Casting, Basic                       |     | X   | 1/23/13   |                  |
| 118       | How to Build Custom Rods                               | Hebert                  | Rod Building - Graphite              | X   |     | 1/23/13   |                  |
| 17        | Steelheading outside the box & Skagit casting          | Scott Howell            | Casting, Spey & Steelhead fishing    |     | X   | 2/27/13   |                  |
| 40        | Terrestrials POWER POINT                               | John Ganter             | Fly Tying, Intermediate              |     | PP  | 2/27/13   |                  |
| 86        | Hand Crafting a Graphite Fly Rod                       | L.A. Garcia             | Rod Building - Graphite              |     | X   | 2/27/13   |                  |
| 122       | Tying Dry Flies -covering Tails, Hackle, Wings, Bodies | A.K. Best               | Fly Tying, Intermediate              |     | X   | 2/27/13   |                  |
| 135       | The Underwater World of Trout - Discovery              | Wendell Ozefovich       | Under Water Video Photography        |     | X   | 2/27/13   |                  |
| 89        | International Soev Castine                             | Vincent/Gawesworth/Stan | Castino - Soev                       |     | X   | 2/27/13   |                  |

### \*\*\*\* Video Library\*\*\*\*

MPFA Maintains a 200+ library for the benefit of its members and we need the help of every member to keep it available to the entire membership.

We ask that you check out a video (Honor System) and return it within 2-3 months. After the 2nd month, the librarian will send the borrower an e-mail or note reminding them that there is a video(s) checked out in their name.

After the 3rd month, the librarian and/or the secretary will send a note asking for the video or \$40 to cover the purchase of it's replacement. Thanks.

Your Video Librarian,  
Kris DeCossio

**MISSION PEAK FLY ANGLERS  
2013 FISHOUT LIST (Preliminary)**

| DATE                | LOCATION                           | TYPE OF FISH                | FISHMASTER              | COMMENTS   |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
|                     |                                    |                             |                         |  |
| Feb - March         | Bay Area Lakes                     | Trout, Bass                 | ??                      | Ideas welcomed for weekday or weekend day  |
| March               | Northern California                | Steelhead                   | ??                      |  |
| March - April       | Delta                              | Bass                        | ??                      |  |
| March - April       | Indian Valley Reservoir            | Trout, Bass                 | Ron Smith               | Any interest see Ron   |
| <b>May 11</b>       | <b>White Pines Lake</b>            | <b>Trout, Bass, Panfish</b> | <b>Dean Lewis<br/>1</b> | <b>Potluck BBQ?</b>  |
| May - June          | Goodwin lake                       | Trophy Trout                |                         | Pay fishout – \$50 to \$100/day includes fishing and accommodations                                |
| June – July         | Santa Cruz                         | Surf Perch                  | Craig Gittings          | Check with Craig for best tides  |
| <b>June 15 - 16</b> | <b>Manzanita Lake</b>              | <b>Trout</b>                | <b>Mark Kaharick</b>    | <b>Potluck BBQ</b>   |
| July/Aug            | Hi Sierra Horse Pack               | Trout                       | Jeff Lorelli            | Ideas welcomed   |
| <b>Sept 7-8</b>     | <b>Clark's Fork</b>                | <b>Trout</b>                | <b>Bill Peaks</b>       | <b>Campout and Potluck BBQ</b>   |
| Sept                | Central Sierra Stillwater Scramble | Trout                       | Ken Brunskill           |  |
| Sept/Oct            | Feather River                      | Salmon, Steelhead           |                         |  |
| Sept/Oct            | Davis Lake                         | Trout                       | Mitch Matsumoto         |  |
| Sept/Oct            | Lake Almanor area                  | Trout, Bass                 | Ed Huff                 |  |
| Sept/Oct            | Alpine Lake                        | Trout                       | Dean Lewis              |  |
| Oct                 | Eastern Sierra – Bridgeport North  | Trout                       | Jeff Lorelli            | Meadowcliff Lodge<br>530-495-2255<br><a href="http://meadowcliff.com/">http://meadowcliff.com/</a> |
| Oct                 | American River                     | Salmon                      |                         |  |
| Nov                 | Trinity River                      | Steelhead                   |                         |  |
| Dec                 |                                    |                             |                         |  |

The above fishout calendar is tentative and subject to change. Always contact the fishmaster the week of the fishout to be notified of changes due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. Also check the newsletter for detailed information on fishing tackle, flies, directions and accommodations, as recommended by the fishmaster.

Note that only the fishouts shown in **BOLD** on this calendar are actually confirmed at this time; all others are tentative.

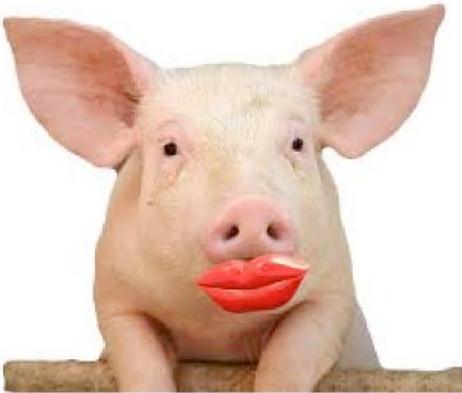
The actual dates of wintertime fishouts are highly dependent upon the weather conditions and will be confirmed by the fishmaster the week of the fishout.

Your ideas for fishout locations are always welcomed by the club. Phone Jeff Lorelli to volunteer as a fishmaster. The qualifications for a fishmaster are that you have a place in mind, know how to get there, and would welcome some fishing companions. That is it, so sign up now.

**(Conservation News continued from page 7)**

**The big news from the DWR is that the third 2013 snow survey shows continuing dry conditions.**

The snowpack hasn't actually lost much water content since the season's first survey. on January 2, when it was 134 percent of normal for that date, but it hasn't continued to build as winter has deepened because of the continuing warm weather that set in after the storms of late November and early December. In other words, the snowpack has not kept pace with the calendar. As a result, today's snowpack water content is only 66 percent of average for this time of year, and only 57 percent of the average April 1 reading, when the snowpack normally is at its peak before beginning to melt into the state's streams, reservoirs and aquifers.



**Special thanks to Larry Dennis, Craig Gittings and Dave Heyes for jumping on the MPFA Action Alert and sending me confirmation emails that they told the State Water Board to improve fishing and river flows for the San Joaquin Valley. Big fish karma is coming your way!**

[www.restorethedelta.org](http://www.restorethedelta.org) - To keep you up to date on delta issues

**The latest news from Restore The Delta is that powerful water exporters are misrepresenting the risk of earthquakes to generate support for the Peripheral Tunnels.** Since the devastation of hurricane Katrina, these powerful forces have stoked fear of flooding and earthquakes to make a case for transforming a unique, beautiful, productive Delta region into a permanent way station for water going somewhere else. But the Peripheral Tunnels will not protect California's water supply from earthquake," according to RTD director Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla

Restore the Delta goes on to say:

The earthquake threat to the Delta is minimal. The Hayward Fault is 40 miles from the Delta's center. But the State Water Project (SWP) and federal Central Valley Project (CVP) cross right over high-risk fault areas, from Coalinga south to LA, including the San Andreas Fault. Cement canals in the southern part of the state are more vulnerable to earthquakes than Delta levees.

*Does it make sense to spend upwards of \$50 billion to reinforce the first 35 miles of the 400-mile water export system, when earthquake threat is equal or higher in other parts of the system? The astronomical cost of the peripheral tunnels threatens investment in a more resilient, and disaster resistant system.*

Read the entire Restore the Delta article here: <http://www.restorethedelta.org/peripheral-tunnels-do-not-eliminate-earthquake-threats-to-water-supply-fattening-the-levees-is-a-more-effective-solution/>

[www.lloydgcarter.com](http://www.lloydgcarter.com) - Lloyd Carter covers water related issues in the Central Valley. Lloyd hates Westlands with a passion. (A guy after Larry's own heart...those #S@!%Westlanders)

**A local news story from Lloyd Carter focuses on getting adequate Napa wine country water flows in Kimball Creek a tributary to the Napa River.** The issue is bigger than it might appear since the State Water Resources Control Board recently vacated its Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams as a result of litigation. **Read an excerpt below and know that there will be more on this issue in the coming months.**



Napa Wine Country Water for Fish Showdown at Kimball Creek by Patrick

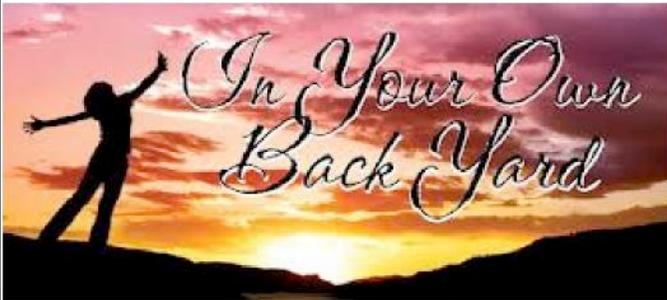
Porgans, Planetary Solutionaries

Chris Malan, representing *Living Rivers*, is dead set on keeping fish alive in Kimball Creek, a tributary on the upper Napa River. Public records indicate that the City of Calistoga would be at fault for dead fish if it fails to release adequate flows from Kimball Dam and Reservoir, which are required to protect the downstream fishery.

In Malan's latest salvo "City must act now to protect fish" she makes a compelling argument, by backing up her stance on "water for fish" now, pointing out the fact "it's the law," placing the city on a major "fault-line" and in the line-of-sight of the State Water Resources Control Board. Formal complaints have been filed against the city for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of a State Water Board issued permit associated with the right and use of water stored behind Kimball Dam.

Fish & Game Code Section 5937. This fish protection law was enacted in 1937; even fishery agencies acknowledge time for the fish is running out.

Read the complete article here: [http://www.lloydgcarter.com/content/130124594\\_napa-winecountry-water-fish-showdown-kimball-creek](http://www.lloydgcarter.com/content/130124594_napa-winecountry-water-fish-showdown-kimball-creek)



[www.alamedacreek.org](http://www.alamedacreek.org) - Covers water issues in Southern Alameda County and Alameda Creek. Also, a great source for information on endangered species.

**The Alameda Creek Alliance continues to ask citizens to tell Caltrans to adopt the community supported proposals for road safety in Niles Canyon, without road widening or impacts to Alameda Creek.** You may take action at: <http://www.alamedacreek.org/take-action/current%20niles%20canyon%20alert.php>

[www.fishsniffer.com](http://www.fishsniffer.com) - Dan Bacher, Editor, Fish Sniffer. He has some very biting articles concerning our inept and incompetent public officials and policies

**The big yet unsurprising news from Dan Bacher is that: Delta Fish**

### **Populations Reach Record Lows**

The abundance of Delta fish species documented in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's fall midwater trawl survey plummeted again in 2012, after a temporary increase among Delta smelt and other species in 2011.

This record low abundance was predicted by Thomas Cannon, a well-respected fishery biologist who testified on behalf of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance at State Water Resources Control Board meetings in October and November, 2012.

*The most alarming of all of the declines was for threadfin shad, a once abundant forage fish used for striped bass bait on the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.*

The threadfin shad reached a record low abundance level, an index of 41. The index is a relative measure of abundance by the California Department of Wildlife (CDFW), formerly the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG).

By contrast, the threadfin shad index reached its highest level recorded, 15267, in 1997 and was 14401 in 2001. Last year the index was 228.

The American shad abundance was the second lowest ever recorded, 415, only exceeded by the record low of 346 in 1976, the first year of a record drought. By contrast, the record abundance was 9360 in 1972.

The Delta smelt, an indicator species found only in the Bay-Delta Estuary that is listed under the Endangered Species Act, reached the seventh lowest abundance on record. The index this year was 42, beginning its backward slide after temporarily increasing to an index of 342 last year.

Longfin smelt, a cousin of the Delta smelt, plummeted to its second lowest recorded abundance, an index of 61. This was only exceeded in 2007, when the index reached a record low of 13.

Striped bass, a popular sport fish that corporate agribusiness has blamed for salmon and Delta smelt declines to divert attention from the impact of Delta water exports on fish species, dropped to the seventh lowest index on record, 125. The abundance for striped bass was 19677 in 1967 when the species was at its historic high.

Go to: <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2013/01/04/18729468.php> to read Dan's complete article which include fishery biologist Tom Cannon's conclusions.



**YAWN!**

[www.calsport.org](http://www.calsport.org) - **California Sportfishing Protection Alliance**. They fight the tough battles. A good source for ongoing legal fights

### **CSPA and conservation allies fight for fish passage past Tuolumne River dams**

By Chris Shutes

For the past five years, CSPA and allied conservation groups have been stymied in efforts to require study of fish passage in important hydropower relicensings in California. Licensees on

the Merced and Tuolumne rivers have argued that their own agricultural irrigation diversions dams downstream of the huge dams that store water for these diversions were the barriers to fish passage, not the huge storage dams themselves. The storage dams have hydroelectric projects on them that are subject to hydropower licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), but so far FERC has not looked at passage because of the smaller dams just downstream.

In a potential breakthrough, FERC issued an Order on December 18, 2012 finding that La Grange Dam on the Tuolumne River and the small La Grange Powerhouse just next to it were jurisdictional to FERC. FERC ordered owner Turlock Irrigation District to license “the La Grange Project” under the Federal Power Act. A licensing process for La Grange could require Turlock and Modesto Irrigation Districts to study and possibly implement fish passage past La Grange and Don Pedro dams.

Read the rest of the article here: <http://calsport.org/news/cspa-and-conservation-allies-fight-for-fish-passage-past-tuolumne-river-dams/>

I also add here an unconventional site of my own that is not strictly limited to conservation issues...



[www.moldychum.com](http://www.moldychum.com) - Moldy Chum is fly fishing content consolidator that picks up some of the best fly fishing related content from the web on a daily basis. Besides all the great video clips, gadget reviews and irreverent humor, there is often a good deal of coverage of conservation issues. These range from imperiled blue tuna stocks to Utah’s HB68 to modify Utah’s “Public Waters Access Act”. A sample of the content from the Moldy Chum site relative to the rally to drum up support against HB68 may be seen here:

<http://vimeo.com/59709711>

**It’s a great piece of video that is fun to watch.**

Another nice thing about the Moldy Chum site is that as you’re gleaning all the fly fishing content when you do come across a conservation related item, your opportunity to participate is usually only a click away. Most of the time you are invited to send a letter to your congressperson or public official on behalf of a particular issue, and then need only fill in your name and address and click your mouse to send it off. Nothing to compose, nothing to print, easy, peazy, lemon, squeezezy. Done!

## Veterans First Fly Fishing

We have been having fun sometimes doing more than tying and/or casting with the veterans at Menlo Park, San Jose & Livermore hospitals & clinics. Example being; in February Gene Kaczmarek (NCCFFF Pres.), Maureen Brown (Menlo Park VFFF Lead) & I were asked by a veteran to participate in a 'Group Art Project', not being ones to say NO we agreed, the attached picture is of the entry our veteran designed. We thought the fly fishing community would get the gist of the piece.



Gail Matthews did the hand thrown piece of glazed pottery (20" diameter X 8" tall), Gene & Maureen tied the (10 flies) flies and I kiln dried a willow twig in my wife's oven & wrapped the "rod" with snake eyes after the "Rod" was formed. The piece won FIRST PLACE and in the regional competition and now goes to the next step. Stay tuned – what a fun way to show our veterans we care at more than one level!

Ken Brunskill, Chairman

***Veterans First Fly Fishing***



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