

Grazing and the California Golden Trout

Our June guest speaker is Debbie Sharpton, Conservation VP of the Southwest Council International Federation of Flyfishers (SWC-IFFF). Debbie also holds the positions of Conservation Chair for Sierra Pacific Flyfishers (Van Nuys), and Executive Director of Mountains Restoration Trust, a public benefit land trust in the Santa Monica Mountains. Her work is conservation and fly fishing is her passion.

A southern California native, Debbie's career began in the late 1970's in the real estate development industry working with property owners and development firms on large scale development projects. This work took her to beautiful canyons and creeks that became the impetus to change her focus from



California Golden Trout!!

development to preservation. Today she is responsible for habitat restoration for and recovery of threatened species, such as the endangered southern steelhead and Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. During the summers of 2010-2014, Debbie assisted Kathleen Matthews, researcher for the US Forest Service, looking at the impact of climate change and cattle grazing on the golden trout in the subalpine streams of Mulkey, Big Whitney and Ramshaw meadows, in

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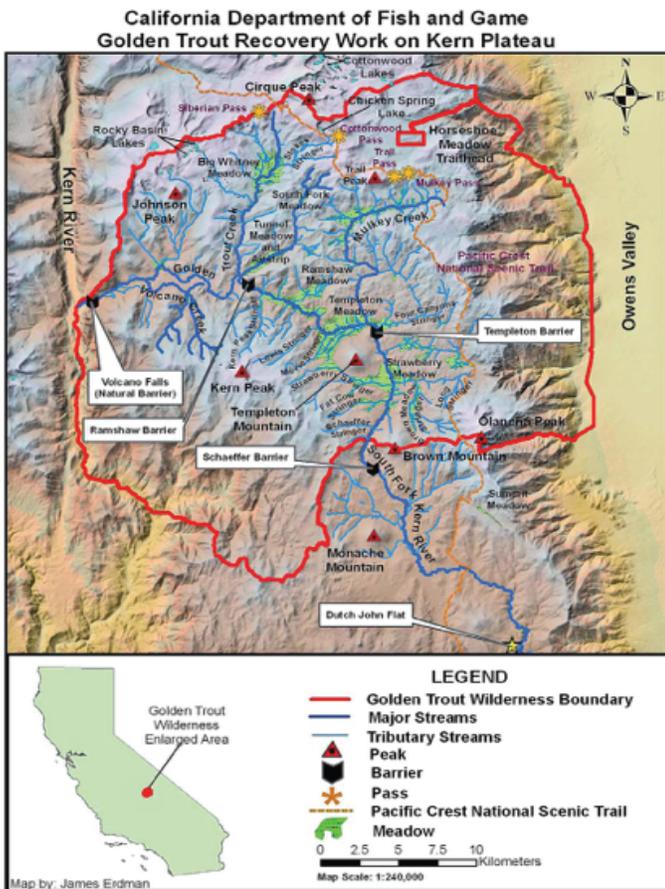
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Grazing and the California Golden Trout

the Golden Trout Wilderness, Inyo National Forest. Debbie became interested in the topic of grazing and resource management on public lands, particularly the impacts to aquatic systems and their inhabitants.

The original Inyo National Forest was a small area on the floor of the Owens Valley, created by President Teddy Roosevelt on May 25, 1907. He later combined it with over a million acres of the Sierra National Forest on July 1, 1908. The Inyo Forest now comprises over 2.1 million acres.

The Golden Trout Wilderness (GTW) lies within the Inyo National Forest. Designated by Congress in 1978, The GTW encompasses 304,000 acres on the Kern Plateau, at the southern end of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The area is named after California's brightly colored state fish, which is native only to the waters of the Golden Trout Wilderness.



Use of the mountain meadows of the Kern Plateau by livestock has occurred for over 130 years, initially by cattle and sheep in the late 1800s and then exclusively by cattle by the early 1900s (USFS, INF files). By the early 1930s the Forest Service recognized degradation in watershed conditions and began taking action, including reducing the season of use and numbers of cattle, and implementing active watershed restoration projects. Current grazing use is substantially less than historical levels.

In February 2001, Ms. Luci McKee, District Ranger, Mt. Whitney and White Mt. Ranger Districts, signed a Decision Notice that implemented a period of rest on the Templeton and Whitney grazing allotments to allow for the most rapid recovery toward the desired watershed and aquatic habitat conditions. That Decision Notice included the provision that in approximately 10 years, an analysis will be initiated to determine if a proposal should be considered to resume grazing, continue the rest, or permanently eliminate the grazing allotments. The period of rest on these allotments was implemented beginning with the summer of 2001.

Debbie will be discussing golden trout recovery efforts, recent monitoring and scientific research as well as the current status of the resource agencies environmental reviews and grazing permits.



Leader's Line

Dale Harper, Club President

Greetings! May 14th was the Kids Fishing Day at the Historic Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery. ABFF were present and promoted our sport through entomology, fly casting, and a casting game for the kids. The biggest fish caught was reported to be 10.5 pounds. We should all be so lucky! Thanks to Lew Albright, Jeff Zubek, Craig Rae, and Lloyd Smith for making the trip and supporting the event. If you haven't been to the Whitney hatchery it's well worth the time to stop in and see the museum and the grounds, not to mention the awesome building, built in 1916.

The next event the club will attend is the Trout Fest at Hot Creek Hatchery near Mammoth Lakes. Currently we have volunteers for entomology, fly casting, and fish printing. We need fly tiers, fishing helpers, and general support folks. There is an empty house that will be available for to members use Friday and Saturday night. Let me know if you need more information or would like to add your name to the list of volunteers. It's a chance to have some fun and give back to our sport.

I hope to see you at the meeting on the 7th of June. Debbie Sharpton, our guest speaker, will be making a presentation on the Golden Trout Wilderness.

R/s, Dale

THERE'S ALWAYS
TIME
—≡ for ≡—
ONE MORE
★ **CAST** ★

The Chuck Newmyer Commemorative Fly Plate

Lloyd Smith, Membership Chairman

We have a winner! At the May monthly meeting a second drawing for the winning card was held since no one claimed the originally drawn card. The winner was Steve Garrison with the Jack of clubs from the blue deck. Thank you all for honoring Chuck's contributions through your participation in this fund raiser.

Up Around The Bend

Fred Freiberg, Programs

Our schedule for upcoming general meeting speakers and events is listed below:

June 7th Debbie Sharpton
 "Grazing and the
 Golden Trout"

July **No General Meeting**

August 2nd **Annual Club Picnic**

September 6th TBA

October 4th TBA

November 1st TBA

December 6th **Annual Sportsmen's Festival**

If you have suggestions for future speakers or you would like to do a club presentation yourself, please drop me a line and we'll discuss it.

You can contact me, Fred Freiberg, at (760) 793-6964 or email me at fredfreiberg@hotmail.com

TROUT FEST 2016

TOUCH A FISH ~ TASTE A FISH ~ FEED A FISH ~ CATCH A FISH



Saturday
9am - 1pm

JUNE 25th HOT CREEK HATCHERY

121 Hot Creek Hatchery Road
Mammoth Lakes CA 93546

All Activities are Free
All Gear is Provided
Fishing for 15 years and under only.

Casting • Fly Casting • Trout Tasting • Fish Printing • Kid's Fishing
Aquarium • CDFW Displays • Dissection • Trout Touch Pool • Aquatic Insects
Feed the Fish • Trout Cleaning • Rigging • Fly Tying

LEARN TO TIE ~ LEARN TO CAST ~ LEARN TO CLEAN ~ LEARN TO COOK



troutfest@wildlife.ca.gov



Carpin' Time!!

By Allen Bell - The Fly Addict

Well, it's that time of year again. The time of year I always look forward to. Carpin' Time!!!

This is the time of year that the Carps are in the shallows, eating, enjoying all the fresh water from recent snow melt, in general, loving life, that and just, well, loving!!! The Carps are all gathered together this time of year for one huge Carp love fest!!! Now, I will have it known that The Addict would never pursue any game fish during a spawn if there was any chance of damaging the species, numbers or individual fish. I'm thinking this isn't a problem when chasing Carp. You have to find the feeders anyway, the lovers are far too busy to think of eating a fly or anything else.



I got my start Carping on the Kern. My friend Randy (Insane Carp addict) and I were fishing for the remainder of the big rainbows from the lake when Randy spotted a nice pod of really big Carp swimming a big circle in the pool we were fishing.

“This is the thing. Carp on the fly are the most difficult fish to catch that I have ever fished for.”

We didn't move the rest of the day. Randy would try to catch a carp, then I would try to catch a carp. We never did actually catch one, but we did get to watch them come and go. I called it the Carp Rodeo. Even though we didn't catch one, we had a couple close calls and near misses. I was soon to find that near misses are the staple of this sport.

I was ready the next year, with a 6wt Powell I traded Randy a vest for and a Pfluger reel that I got on sale somewhere. Lesson one in the Carp world, a cheap reel will soon be smoked!! That rod was and is still a great Carp rod, the reel didn't make it through the first season. This is the thing. Carp on the fly are the most difficult fish to catch that I have ever fished for. You have to make a perfect presentation to 20 fish before one will look at it. You have to get 20 fish to look before you get one to take. There is no sensation of a grab of

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Who could not love this face??

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any kind, you might see the fly vanish, probably you won't though. You see a Carp turn and maybe open it's mouth a little. That's it. If you think the Carp has your fly, set the hook....hard!!! You might get Carp, you might get a weed, you might get the wrong end of a Carp. You might miss and get nothing. Either way, no matter what you get, all the Carp are gone after a hook set. Did I mention these are spooky fishes?

It's worth it though. When that hook connects, these are the strongest fish you can imagine. There is no finesse involved in this. They are heading for Bakersfield. Fast!!! It isn't uncommon to be in your backing two or three times getting a fish landed.

“That’s it. If you think the carp has your fly, set the hook...hard!!!”

I caught this fish on my Winston 5wt. That was the last time I strung it up near a Carp. At one time, I had seven strands of backing left. If this fish had decided to run another fifteen feet or so, I would have been out an expensive fly line and probably an expensive reel. Luckily, he stopped and eventually, I brought him to net and just had to take a hero shot.



27” of Golden Bonefish!!

We park at least 100 yards from the water and whisper. Don't worry about spooking the lovers, they are impervious to anything other than the business at hand, or fin as it were. The feeders you are looking for can tell what kind of rig you are driving from 50 yards. When you miss a fish, you spook it and all his buddies leave with him. It could take a long time to find another group of feeders in all this chaos.



My dad and I after a great week of family and carpin'!!

Carping has accompanied me through some tough times also. When my Dad was sick, we went home to visit before the end. I was driving my daughter around showing her the places I loved growing up. I stopped at Armor Bridge on the Little Okaw River. When I got out of the car, I couldn't believe what I saw, vapor trails, big vapor trails!! I knew what left these, Carp, lots and lots of really big carp. We drove around for an hour or so then returned, snuck down

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to the bridge and I was amazed!!! I had brought a rod just in case I got invited to a Bass pond, Happy Day!!! I went to get a fishing license, they asked what I was going to fish for, it was late July and the dog days of summer were in full effect. No fish were biting I was told. I was too stoked to contain myself and went blubbering on and on about the awesome Carp spot I found. They thought I was crazy and they were right. Crazy for Carp!!! I caught a bunch of really big Carp and had a great time with my Dad, enjoying a cold Bud, trying in vain to get the mud and oil from the river off my fly line. The good folks back in my home town are probably still talking about that California fruitcake catching Carp...and letting them go!!!



Soon to be smoked cheap reel!!



Golden Bonefish!!

I guess you could call me a Carp enthusiast. I don't think I have achieved 'Addict' status yet. I know people that are way more into this than I am. I like to do it when it is easier. Catching a Carp on the fly is difficult enough for me then, why push it and fish for Carps when they are hard(impossible) to catch. There is a lot to like about pursuing Carp. They are abundant, challenging to catch and exhilarating when you do manage to hook one. What's not to like? Heck ya, I'm ready to be Carpin this weekend. I can't wait to see my backing disappear. Maybe I'll smoke a reel. That would be worth the 300.00 just for the story. Know what I mean??

Blue Skies and Fishy Flies.....Allen



They LOVE the Carp Worm, even in Illinois!!

I am kind of picky about what I fish for. Too picky, sometimes. I burned myself out on Bass earlier, I'm just so into trout and more, now I'm into trout in the best places. My new love is Yellowstone. Better fish it before it blows is my new motto. Still, I will always have a soft spot for the Carps. Poor man's trophy fishing at it's best. It doesn't take a lot of money on gear or flies, get a good reel and a big net!!! You will see your reel almost out of backing, you will end a day legitimately sore from fighting and landing fish. Really BIG fish!!!



Mt Whitney Fish Hatchery Kids Fishing Day

Lloyd Smith, FotMWFH Coordinator

Kid's fishing day at the Mt Whitney Fish Hatchery was 14 May with lots of action for the kids, and some very large fish (10 ½ lbs was the largest measured). Aguabonita Flyfishers Lew Albright, Dale Harper, Craig Rae, Lloyd Smith, and Jeff Zubek provided volunteer assistance, an entomological demonstration, and fly casting practice for the kids.



Fishing Reports

Gary Davis

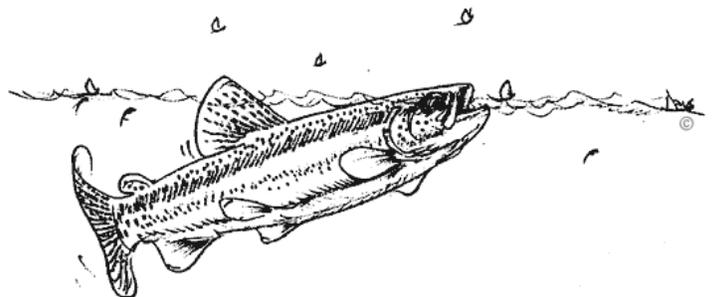
On a recent fishing trip, Lloyd Smith & I headed north out of town. We hooked up with Pat Jaeger of Eastern Sierra Guide Service for a drift boat trip down the Lower Owen's River. What a great trip! A bit windy, but we caught a couple of fish.



Eastern Sierra Guide Service

<http://www.jaeger-flyfishing.com/>

(760) 872-7770



Fishing Reports

Umpqua River

My good friend and coworker, Anjel Avitia and his wife Rebecca, recently took a float trip down the Umpqua River in Oregon. They hooked up with a total of 28 steelhead and 2 cutthroat trout. Not a bad day of fishing, eh!



[Editors Note: Shhh....don't anybody tell Anjel but I think his wife caught the bigger fish!!]

2016 TIC Report

Jay Crawford, TIC Coordinator

Well it was quite a year. We had 14 classrooms which we set up March 25th. Eggs were delivered by our DFW contact, Jim Eerdman the next week. We put them in the tanks over the next couple of days. After four weeks, almost all the eggs were dead. A call to Jim confirmed that the Inyo schools had the same result.

Jim tried to get us more eggs (the source is the Mt. Shasta Hatchery) but they had used their supply. But Jim was able to arrange to get us fry. Steve picked those up and put them in the tanks and fortunately many of those survived. The classes were able to go on release trips to Lone Pine Creek.

Craig Rae set up an entomology station at the creek so the students could see what the fish eat. Jim Eerdman set up a station which talked to electro shocking and fish census. The third station was the fish release where each student got at least one fish to put into the creek. On our last release the stocking truck rolled in just ahead of the school bus. So the kids got to see some nice sized fish so they know what the fry look like as they mature rather than just pictures.

Many thanks to Craig and Jim for setting up and manning the stations as well as to Ed Jeter, Ed Rockdale, Karl Zellner, Mary Albright, Mark Albright, Lew Albright (especially for sticking his hands into 38 degree water to capture fish for the kids to release), Steve Garrison for hosting the cleanup and set up as well as keeping extra fish.



If you look closely, you'll notice several, freshly stocked trout swimming around the pool where we were releasing the fry!!



The Aquatic Insect "Bug" Station!!

Kennedy Meadows Campground Update

Mike Mumford

For those of you who fish the Kennedy Meadows area and have camped at the Kennedy Meadows Campground. Here's an update on it's current status.

As many of you know, there have been discussions about the status of the Kennedy Meadows Campground. The campground will remain open this year with limited services. There will be no water available in the campground, so visitors must bring their own water or stop and get some in town. Trash service will be available and two of the restrooms will remain open. This is being done in partnership with the community of Kennedy Meadows.

It is clear in conversations with Kennedy Meadow residents that this campground is important to them and several community members are assisting with the services to keep it open. The Inyo National Forest appreciates their efforts and dedication to the recreation experience in Kennedy Meadows.

The forest service will not be collecting fees at the campground as it not a full-service campground. However, the community may ask for donations to help offset the costs they are incurring to keep the campground open.

Thank you,
Roderick

Roderick J. Alfred, District Ranger (Acting)
Forest Service, Inyo National Forest
p: 760-876-6227
rjalfred@fs.fed.us
640 South Main Street, P.O. Box 8
Lone Pine, CA 93545
www.fs.fed.us

“Caring for the land and serving people”

May “Ties & Lies”



Ties and Lies

Gary Ahr Sr., Weekend Fly-Tying

Our weekend fly-tying session, "Ties & Lies," is held one Saturday of each month from 9:00am to noon. Come join us at "Chuck's Place," 145 Panamint Street.

As always, these fly-tying sessions are open to all. If you need help or assistance to solve a tying problem, then plenty of assistance will be available from the other tiers. You don't have to tie flies either, just come on in and kibitz or listen to the fish stories; maybe swap a few of your own stories.

This is also an opportunity for club members to have access to the club's library to review, check-out and/or return any of the books, reference material, VHS tapes and DVDs that are available.

As always, if you have a question please give me a call at (209) 918-1053 or drop me a line at gary_ahr@yahoo.com

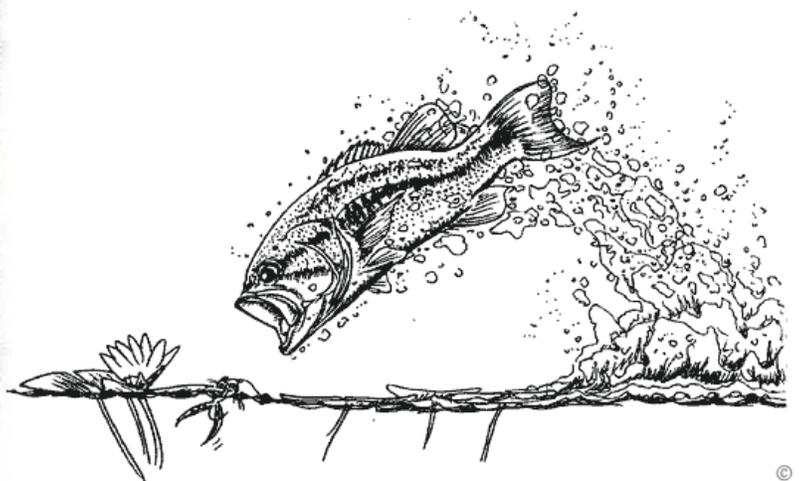


Refreshments for our Monthly General Meetings

We're taking sign-ups for our upcoming monthly meeting "Goodie Providers." Cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, you name it, club members will be more than happy to eat whatever you bring. This is a perfect opportunity to bring your wife's, the girlfriend's, or the significant other's favorite dessert to share. Heck, even some of you guys can probably whip something up that's safe for human consumption. Worst case, head to the local bakery.

A sign-up sheet will be available at monthly meetings where you can choose which month to bring the goodies.

June	TBA
July	No General Meeting
August	Annual Picnic
September	TBA
October	TBA
November	TBA
December	Annual Sportsmen's Festival



*“Volunteer
for a cause,
not for applause.”*

Some Events To Consider:

- Trout in the Classroom**
- Trout Fest**
- S.E.E.P.**
- Hatchery Kids Fishing Day**
- Lahontan Cutthroat Restoration**
- Casting for Recovery**
- SWC Fly Fishing Faire**

Club Donations

Board of Directors

The club is looking for donations from members of items for the monthly meeting raffles. If you have items in good condition that are just taking up space please consider donating them to the club. The items “Do Not” have to be fly fishing related. You can bring them to a board meeting, a general monthly meeting, or contact one of the board members for pickup. These donations go a long way to help the club raise needed funds to support its various efforts, including Trout in the Classroom, the Youth Program, our conservation projects, and much more.



**Aguabonita Flyfishers
Rod & Reel Inventory**

FLY RODS:

1.	Cabela’s	9’-0”	6wt	4-piece
2.	Cortland	8’-0”	5/6wt	2-piece
3.	Fenwick	7’-6”	5wt	2-piece
4.	Fenwick	7’-6”	6wt	2-piece
5.	Fisher	8’-6”	3/4wt	2-piece
6.	Fisher	9’-0”	6wt	4-piece
7.	Fisher	8’-6”	5/6wt	4-piece
8.	Fisher	8’-0”	6/7wt	4-piece
9.	Fisher	9’-6”	7/8wt	4-piece
10.	Fisher	9’-0”	10wt	4-piece
11.	G. Loomis	7’-9”	2wt	4-piece
12.	G. Loomis	8’-0”	3wt	4-piece
13.	Powell	9’-0”	5/6wt	4-piece
14.	St. Croix	9’-0”	3wt	2-piece
15.	St. Croix	9’-0”	6/7wt	4-piece
16.	St. Croix	9’-0”	8/9wt	2-piece
17.	St. Croix	9’-0”	9/10wt	2-piece
18.	St. Croix	9’-6”	7/8wt	4-piece
19.	Sage	9’-0”	4wt	4-piece
20.	Sage VT2	9’-0”	5wt	4-piece
21.	Sage	9’-0”	5wt	4-piece
22.	Sage	9’-0”	6wt	4-piece
23.	Winston	8’-6”	6wt	2-piece
24.	Winston Accent	9’-0”	4wt	4-piece

FLY REELS & LINE:

1.	Berkley	DT2F
2.	Cortland	DT3F
3.	Cortland	DT4F
4.	Cortland	DT5F
5.	Cortland	DT6F
6.	Cortland	WF7F
7.	Cortland	WF9F
8.	STH	10 F/S
9.	Okuma	WF8F

WADERS:

1.	2 pairs	Size-10
2.	1 pair	Size-14

To check out a rod and/or reel, call Lew Albright at (760) 375-8725. The club requires a nominal fee of \$5.00. The money will be used for maintenance of the equipment.

Monthly Club Meeting

General membership meetings are held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (639 N. Norma St., Ridgecrest, CA). Everyone is welcome to attend! Our meetings feature guest speaker presentations, brief club news, refreshments, a raffle and a silent book auction.

Annual Cost for Membership

General membership	\$ 20.00
Associate membership	\$ 5.00
Youth membership	\$ 5.00
Life membership	\$200.00
One time initiation fee	\$ 10.00

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors usually meet at 7:00pm on the last Tuesday of each month. The board meetings are held at the club classroom located at 145 Panamint Street and are open to anyone with agenda items to share. To be placed on the next meeting's agenda, please send your request to Dave Calvert at dave.calvert.ii@gmail.com



"I've gone fishing thousands of times in my life, and I have never once felt unlucky or poorly paid for those hours on the water."

William Tappley

"A Fly-Fishing Life"

Board of Directors and other Club Officers

President	Dale Harper	(760) 382-4903
Vice-President	Fred Freiberg	(760) 793-6964
Secretary	Dave Calvert	(760) 793-8026
Treasurer	Steve Garrison	(760) 375-3192
Director A (2-Year)	Dave DeKruger	(760) 384-8760
Director B (2-Year)	Craig Rae	(760) 375-3707
Director SWC-IFFF	Craig Porter	(760) 446-3400

Banquet Chairman for 2016

Vacant

Club Equipment

Low Albright (760) 375-8725

Club Library

Fred Freiberg (760) 793-6964

Conservation Chairman

Karl Zellner (760) 499-6361

Education Chairman

John Linder (760) 377-5750

Membership Chairman

Lloyd Smith (760) 377-3542

Newsletter Editor

Neal Barry (760) 301-2098

Outings

Vacant

Programs

Fred Freiberg (760) 793-6964

Publicity

Barbara Linder (760) 377-5750

Trout In the Classroom

Jay Crawford (760) 375-8275

Webmaster

Neal Barry (760) 301-2098

Weekend Fly Tying

Gary Ahr Sr. (209) 918-1053

Youth Coordinator

John Linder (760) 377-5750

Goodies for the
June Club Meeting
— TBA —

August is the
Annual Club Picnic



June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	Flex-Day 3	New Moon 4
5	6	7 Monthly Club Meeting 7:30pm - 9:00pm Dinner @ Casey's 6:00pm - 7:00pm	8	9	10	11 Weekend Fly Tying "Chuck's Place" 9:00am - Noon
First Quarter 12	13	14	15	16	Flex-Day 17	18
19	Full Moon 20	21	22	23	24	25 SMOKN' HOT 2016 Trout Fest Hot Creek Hatchery 9:00am - 1:00pm
26	Last Quarter 27	28 June Board Meeting 7:00pm	29	30	Flex-Day 1	2

530-926-4540 jacktrout.com

Jack Trout Fly Fishing

Northern California Fly Fishing Guides
AMERICA • ARGENTINA • CHILE • BELIZE • CUBA

Ernie Gulley
Guide Service

Web Site: <http://www.jacktrout.com/>
Blog: <http://www.mtshasta.com/>

Web Site: <http://www.erniegulleyflyfishingguideservice.com>
Blog: <http://www.erniegulleyflyfishing.com/>

Organizations We Affiliate With As A Club

👍 **International Federation of Fly Fishers (IFFF)** - Since 1964, the Federation of Fly Fishers has been an organized voice for fly fishers. The Federation of Fly Fishers and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on an national and regional level.

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/>

👍 **Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers (SWC-IFFF)** - The Southwest Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers represents all of Southern California and Nevada. The Federation of Fly Fishers is a 48-year old international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing through conservation, restoration and education.

<http://southwestcouncilfff.org/>

👍 **California Trout (CalTrout)** - Since it's establishment in January, 1971, CalTrouts mission has been to protect and restore wild trout, steelhead, salmon and their waters throughout California.

<http://caltrout.org/>

👍 **Trout Unlimited (TU)** - Since 1959, Trout Unlimited has worked to conserve, protect and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. We have protected more than 10,000 river miles nationwide and pioneered new scientific, legal and legislative tools to make America's rivers cleaner and healthier.

<http://www.tu.org/>

<http://www.tucalifornia.org/>

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Aguabonita Flyfishers

P.O. Box 2059

Ridgecrest, California 93556

The Aguabonita Flyfishers are dedicated to the conservation of fisheries, waters, watersheds, and the enhancement of fly fishing with the participation of its membership through educational outreach programs to local schools and the surrounding community, county, state, and national level programs. The Aguabonita Flyfishers are an equal opportunity club without discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, age, religion or sexual orientation.

The Aguabonita Flyfishers is an affiliated club of the International Federation of Flyfishers (IFFF) and its affiliate, the Southwest Council of the International Federation of Flyfishers (SWC-IFFF). The Aguabonita Flyfishers is also affiliated with California Trout (CalTrout) and Trout Unlimited (TU).

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Aims and Purposes of the Aguabonita Flyfishers:

- To improve and increase the sport of fly fishing
- To promote and work for the betterment of fishing waters
- To provide assistance to club members to help them become more effective fly fishermen and to promote the fellowship of the membership
- To encourage and assist others to become fly fishermen and true sportsmen
- To encourage and advocate conservation of fisheries, waters, and watersheds



Aguabonita Flyfishers Club + P.O. Box 2059 • Ridgecrest, CA 93556 + www.abffclub.org

FIRST CLASS

Aguabonita Flyfishers
P.O. Box 2059
Ridgecrest, CA 93556