

# The Barbless Hook



**December 2010**  
**Issue 161**  
**No. 26**

Tom Vargas with his best fish of the morning during the TVFF Delta Striper Outing November 20<sup>th</sup>.

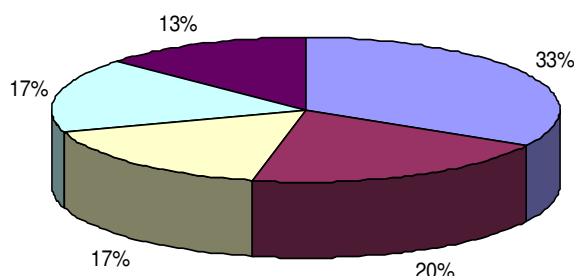
## TVFF Conservation Donations

### President's Message: Bob McCollum

Tri-Valley Fly Fishers has a long history of supporting conservation organizations. All of the net proceeds of the monthly raffle plus additional net funds from the annual silent auction are dedicated to advancing environmental causes.

At the November Board of Directors meeting, the Board voted to finalize the donations for 2010. The Board agreed to give the same total amount as last year – \$1,500 – to five organizations: NCCFFF, CSPA, California Trout, and Friends of the Trinity River.

### TVFF Conservation Donations



■ NCCFF ■ CSPA ■ Cal Trout ■ Alameda Creek Alliance ■ Friends of the Trinity

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## **Current Officers, Board Members, and Coordinators**

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Vice President	Tom Vargas
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Instruction	Gary Turri
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Silent Auction	Bob McCollum
Website	Bob McCollum
Refreshments	Richard Tarbell
Video librarian	Frank Gordet

**The Barbless Hook** is published monthly for members and visitors of the Tri-Valley Fly Fishers. Comments and / or opinions should be directed, by the 15th of the month, to Ken Javorsky: [kjjavorsky@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjjavorsky@sbcglobal.net)

Please begin e-mail with "Newsletter" as the subject.

### **2011 Membership Fees are now Due!!**

2011 Membership Dues will remain at \$35.00 (Individual and Family) if paid on or before February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. After February 3<sup>rd</sup>, a \$40.00 Membership Fee will be applied.

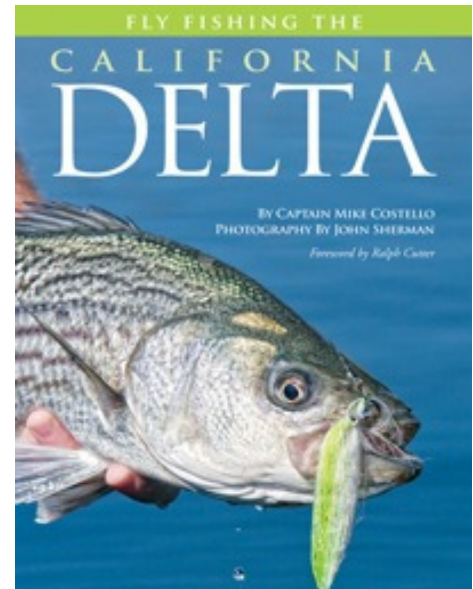
# December Meeting Moved to the 9<sup>th</sup>

The December regular club meeting has been moved one week to the second Thursday, December 9 at 7:00 PM at the Rod and Gun Club. Don't forget to mark your calendar!



## December Speaker: John Sherman on Fly Fishing the Delta

**John Sherman** grew up in Visalia, CA, where he learned how to fly fish of eight. It was here that a passion for fly fishing was sparked and by age 16 a camera accompanied him on every fishing excursion. John's hobby has turned into a career, and his images have appeared in *Field and Stream*, *Fly Fisherman*, *California Fly Fisher*, *North West* and *South West Fly Fishing*, *Fly Fishing in Saltwaters*, and *The Drake*..



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# Conservation Donations (Continued from page 1)

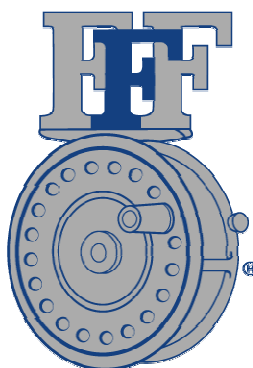
**Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF)** is the regional representative body of the FFF serving the fish and fly fishers of the northern parts of California and Nevada plus the Hawaiian Islands and Guam. The NCC has an extensive conservation program covering all waters and aspects of conservation in California Fly Fishing.

**California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA)** was formed to protect, restore and enhance the state's fishery resources and the aquatic ecosystems they depend on to ensure this renewable public resource is conserved for the public's use and that of future generations. CSPA focuses much of its effort in communicating and working with governmental agencies, policy makers and fishery managers to ensure they have the support they need to protect the public's fishery legacy at self-sustaining levels. When this focus isn't successful, CSPA utilizes political action and litigation to assist in realizing its critical conservation objectives, both of which have been found to be necessary and effective tools.

**California Trout (CalTrout)** was the nation's first statewide conservation group supported by trout fishermen with an altruistic goal: to protect and restore trout and the beautiful places where they live. Today, California Trout boasts eleven full-time trout warriors, a cadre of volunteers and an annual budget of \$2 million for projects and programs.

**The Alameda Creek Alliance** is a community watershed group with over 1,800 members, dedicated to protecting and restoring the natural ecosystems of the Alameda Creek watershed. The Alameda Creek Alliance has been working to restore steelhead trout and protect endangered species in the Alameda Creek watershed since 1997.

**Friends of the Trinity River** strives to restore and to protect the Trinity River and its tributaries, and to preserve the natural beauty and biodiversity of its entire ecosystem. This includes pursuing legal, administrative and public education campaigns that will protect and restore the Trinity River, its tributaries and watershed. Simply put, their goal is to revive the once premier Trinity River, its entire ecosystem, and the economies of the Trinity River Basin and North Coast of California.



# November 20, 2010 Delta Striper Outing Report

Our annual striped outing, fish meistered and planned by Tom Vargas and Rick Mikla was ON, but we knew the conditions were going to be tough. A few weeks of warm, Indian summer weather was officially declared over with the storm that blew in on Friday. Saturday morning before dawn, fog streamed by outside of Discovery Bay and clouds up high came from the south and east carried by a stiff wind. Rick and Corey were casting to likely spots in Discovery Bay near "The Big Brown House", hoping to find in stripers in the protected bays, but with little luck. Their early scouting resulted in a change of plans.



At about 7:00 four boats filled with layered flyrodders convened at the confluence of Kellogg Creek, Orwood cut, and Indian Slough and gave the stripers their best. The long casts, the flies to the rip-rap and weed lines, the countdowns, the slow pulls, the fast strips, the long and short of it: a few fish, a bunch of cold fishermen and as the day advanced, breeze turned to chop and wind. Fishing in the lees of islands helped some as did the ear muffs. Tom's top and side skirts on his North River probably helped too. Those of us in bass boats were feeling the wind. We had some success in the Old River area, but the weather was tuff and we sought protection.

**Rick in the morning sun with two layers of clouds (and several layers of clothes).**



**Mike Rosano catches the first Striper of the day as Jason Javorsky looks on.**

**New club member Fred Eichenberger and Don Gardner brave the wind before heading back to the Old River to end the day.**



Ken Javorsky, his family, along with Mike Rosano and son Philip, had some success early on and brought a few schoolies to the boat before calling it a day after lunch.

Corey's philosophy is: "go with one layer too many on a rainy cold day. You can always take a layer off..." Corey bailed out on Rick at noon, after fishing likely spots back in the protection Disco Bay. No bumps, no hits, no errors. He heard tacos calling his name from a Byron tacqueria and drove away while Tom, Dan and Rick stuck it out. We did locate a bait ball in one of the bays. Unfortunately, we found it before the stripers did!



# Conservation Corner

## Regulators Set to Address Delta's Biggest Sewer Plant

By Mike Taugher  
Contra Costa Times

State regulators are about to consider forcing Sacramento to do a better job of cleaning up what it flushes into one of California's most endangered ecosystems and important drinking water sources, the Delta. Among the requirements under consideration are high-tech filters, biological systems to remove ammonia and other upgrades.

The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, which says the improvements will cost \$2 billion, contends it should not have to spend so much for what it says are questionable benefits. The bigger problem, it says, is the amount of water pumped out of the Delta.

But scientists, environmentalists and big water agencies that have seen their supplies shrivel as the Delta's environmental problems have grown are urging regulators to require better treatment at the Delta's largest sewer system.

"For the ecosystem to be fixed, it's got to be more than focusing on flows and pumping," said Laura King Moon, assistant general manager for State Water Contractors, an association of water agencies that rely on Delta pumps.

"We're the only ones that are bearing the burdens of fixing the ecosystem," she said.

Sacramento's ammonium discharges are reducing the amount of small food organisms from the Sacramento River to Suisun Bay, scientists say.

Sixty percent of the municipal wastewater dumped into the Delta comes from the Sacramento plant, which is the only major sewage treatment plant in the Delta

that has not installed -- or is not installing -- an advanced sewage treatment system. The exceptions include a much smaller plant in Discovery Bay and one of two plants in Rio Vista.

Sacramento is the source of nearly all of the ammonia in the Delta, regulators say.

In the past, regulators figured that so much fresh water flows down the Sacramento -- California's largest river -- that it would dilute the sewage discharges.

But the Delta's ecosystem is in severe decline and researchers are increasingly pointing at ammonia and its chemical sister, ammonium, as culprits that may be reducing the amount of food for fish.

"There has been a lot of research in the last few years on ammonia," said Ken Landau, assistant executive officer for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, which is writing the sewage treatment plant's new permit. "It is not killing the big fish but it is inhibiting the growth of algae and part of the food chain."

A draft permit would require the agency to install filters to reduce giardia and cryptosporidium, protozoans that can cause intestinal illnesses, and cut ammonia discharges from 14 tons a day to 1 ton a day.

Sacramento officials say they will have to replace chlorine-based disinfection with ultraviolet treatments to meet the conditions in the new permit.

The district's top manager said the improvement costs would boost the average residential sewer bill from about \$40 per month to \$80.

## Conservation Corner (continued from previous page)

"We simply don't think it's a reasonable balance," said Stan Dean, district engineer for the sewer agency. "The gains in the water quality and the Delta ecosystem are largely speculative."

"Admittedly it's a judgment," Dean added. "If you are not a ratepayer, you're certainly entitled to a different opinion. ... If money is no object, we should do everything. But, unfortunately, we don't have infinite money in our society."

For big water agencies around the state, the desire to see Sacramento better treat its wastewater comes from the hope that it will improve environmental conditions in the Delta enough to ease restrictions on water allocations.

The sewer plant has long been a concern for the Contra Costa Water District because of its effect on the water it supplies to some 550,000 Contra Costa residents.

Three years ago, the Concord-based district won a lawsuit -- now being appealed -- in which it said the Sacramento district did not adequately consider how Sacramento's expansion plans would affect water quality around Contra Costa and other water intakes.

The other water districts often repeat the mantra that they are not to blame for the environmental problems that led to new restrictions on their ability to pump Delta water.

Look at the "other stressors," they say, pointing to invader fish species, the diminished food supply for fish and unregulated water withdrawals.

But Sacramento's treated sewage discharge tops their lists.

There is even a public-relations campaign called, "The Great Delta Toilet Bowl" to call attention to flushing into the Delta.

Sacramento officials responded with their own public relations drive, even commissioning a report early this year to demonstrate just how many fish the Delta pumps kill.

Scientists say the correct answer is "C," all of the above.

"Science supports the concept that there are multiple stressors affecting the Delta ecosystem but science also shows that the current nutrient loading (especially total ammonia) may be one of the most important of those stressors," wrote Cliff Dahm, lead scientist for the state's Delta science program.

"Solutions addressing a single stressor such as increasing flows, reducing the population of an invasive species, or increasing available habitat are unlikely to be successful in isolation," Dahm added.

The issues will come out at a hearing Dec. 9 at 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 in Rancho Cordova.

As of late Tuesday, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's governing board lacked a quorum due to vacancies. A spokesman for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Matt Connelly, said the governor's office had a goal of maintaining a quorum on all state panels but he could not say when appointments might be made.

Landau, the regional board's assistant executive officer, said that the hearing would take place in any case and if the board lacks a quorum the board members who are there would make a recommendation for the board to vote on once it has a sufficient number of members.

If a quorum is present, the board could approve or reject the draft permit, or modify it.

Mike Taugher covers the environment. Contact him at 925-943-8257.



# Klamath Outing Report by Bob McCollum

Ten TVFF anglers converged on the Klamath River in early November to fish for Steelhead. The group enjoyed two days of drift fishing downstream of Irongate Dam. Everyone caught few adult steelies along with several “half pounders” and many smaller trout. Several members also became adept at hooking (and breaking off) salmon! The pictures speak for themselves: everyone had a great time! More pictures on the Clubhouse page of the TVFF website and the TVFF Facebook page.





# LOOKING WAY AHEAD

By Hal Wilson

I have long wanted to fish Eagle Lake and have decided that if I am going to, I'd better get to it !!

The lake has a reputation for producing huge trout, averaging 3 lbs and going to 6 or 7. The strain of rainbow trout native to this lake, is planted widely in the west, in Lake Davis, for example.

Much of the fishing is accessible by wading shallow water, but float tubes and small boats are also used.

The information I have says the lake fishes best in Fall (too late for that this year) and also in late Spring. The season begins on the Saturday nearest Memorial Day, and the good fishing is gone by mid-July when the fish go deep to escape the warming water.

Although there are several other TVFF trips in June, to get in on the good fishing and make the trip worth the effort, I am tentatively planning around the weekend of June 25, 26, 2011. Since the lake is approximately 6 hours drive from the tri-valley area, (at 5100feet, about 20 miles north of Susanville), it makes sense to plan a total of four days for this adventure. In order to have the best selection of accommodations, we will go Thursday 6/23 thru the 25 / 26th weekend,

Camping and Motels are both options. Internet research shows June temps form lows in upper 40's to highs in the 80's.

Lots of time to get definite, but let's start thinking about this new (to most of us) lake to fish! Let me know as soon as you feel even tentative interest.

*Hal*



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NO PETS. NO SMOKING.

Contact: Bob McCollum 925-989-2358



## Trout Unlimited Colorado Pontoon Boat:

9 Ft, sage green, used once. \$300.

Contact Jim Hirzel 925 648-0555.



## Rods For Sale:

G. Loomis GLX Classic FR1086-4: 9 ft. 6wt. 4-piece. Like new condition \$310.00

Contact Gary Turri (925) 830-1128

Philipson T7L Powr-Kast. This rod can be converted to bait or fly rod and comes with a carrying cast/tote. Asking \$100.00 or best offer. If interested contact Rick Tisdale at e-mail [ricktisdale@comcast.net](mailto:ricktisdale@comcast.net).

## Albright XXT Sinking Fly Line: 350 Grains, 100 Ft

Albright company has this line on sale for \$36.99, I have it on sale for \$15. This integrated line at 350 grains is suitable for a 11-12 weight rod, used for only about 10 minutes at the Oakland Casting ponds. Call me and I'll bring it to the meeting. Hal Wilson (925) 846-8766



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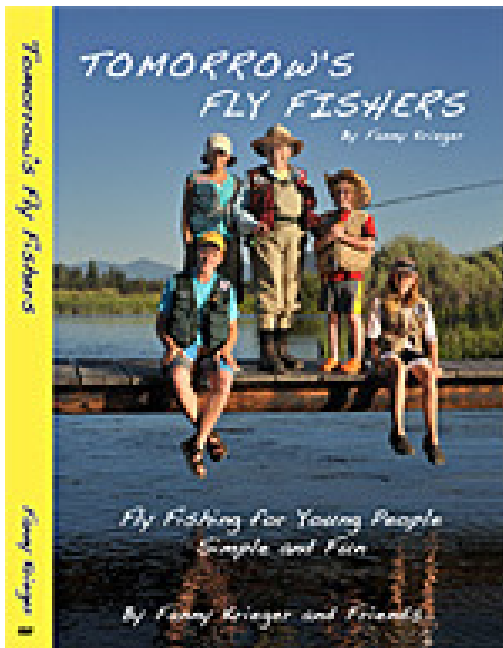
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PAUL WATERS

We meet at the Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club (directions below) on the first Thursday of every month except July and August at 7:00 PM.

### Directions to

Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club: 4000 Dagnino Road, Livermore, California.

Exit Highway 580 on North Livermore Avenue

Proceed North on North Livermore Avenue to May School Road (~2.5 miles).

Turn right onto May School Road and proceed to stop sign at intersection with Dagnino Road (~1 mile).

Entrance to Rod and Gun Club is directly across intersection

