



Dinner Meeting for Thursday, December 15 Annual Holiday Meeting and Awards

However you celebrate the holidays, there is no better time to come together to share stories of the past year and catch up with the latest Club news. The Christmas meeting is a time to eat, drink and enjoy each other's company. There will be special recognition of the naughty and the nice, raffles (of course) and the presentation of some very special awards.



The **J. Stanley Lloyd Order of the Mayfly** for outstanding contribution to fly fishing is being presented to **Steve Ellis**, a founding member of our Club and familiar to our members as the owner of the Fishermen's Spot. Steve

wanted to offer his customers more than the retail experience and, along with his brother Jeff, J Stanley Lloyd and Jordan Lagman founded the club we enjoy today. Steve is an enthusiastic authority on classic tackle, both fly and conventional and has been profiled on the History Channel and local news me-

dia. In giving Steve this honor we recognize that keeping a fly shop alive in these challenging times enriches the life of our local community. For the past forty six years Steve and "The Spot" have been an asset and support to our members and we congratulate him on this award.



The **Order of the Jassid** for outstanding conservation efforts is being presented to **Kevin Peterson**, the manager of Hot Creek Ranch. Kevin has worked tirelessly over the past year to restore our beloved Hot Creek to its former glory. Kevin has been the manager of the Hot Creek Ranch since 2005. He is an F.F.F. certified casting instructor, on the pro guide staff for Scott Fly rods and has been featured in 8 television fishing shows on Fox and The Outdoor Channel. He is an avid supporter of conservation efforts in the Eastern Sierra and is a past President of the local

(Continued on page 3)

PROGRAM.....	1
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	2
PRESIDENT'S CORNER.....	2
SPEAKER SCHEDULE.....	3
LA RIVER.....	4
BY-LAWS.....	5
CLUB OPENING.....	5
CALENDER OF EVENTS.....	6
BIGHORN RIVER.....	7
CATCH OF THE MONTH.....	8

RAFFLE ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

First Prize — Echo 5wt 9ft 4pcs fly rod

Second Prize — Orvis Mid Arbor II reel 3-4 wt

Third Prize — Clear Creek Wader Duffel Bag

Big Barrel

Dozen flies and box, Revivex garment rain treatment, Simms Hat,
Line rewind

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Happy Holidays – is it just me or is Christmas getting earlier every year? Maybe next it will start right after the GSO! Our holiday season got off to a good start with an inspiring program by Tony Rheinhardt that left me wanting to pack for Montana the next day, and December features the Fly Tiers party on the 14th and the not to be missed Christmas Awards meeting on the 15th. We anglers don't much care for mall shopping – our gifts are the early snowfall in Mammoth, warming ocean temperatures

with tuna still being caught off San Diego and great flows on the Kern and Owens. If your spouse thinks you already have everything you could need, remember that a 2017 fishing license always makes a great gift. You will need it for our first Club outing of the New Year, the Super Bowl outing on February 3, 4 and 5. The Eastern Sierra fishes really well with snow on the ground and other anglers stuck in front of the TV watching teams (not from L.A.) Jim Fleisher (our new Outings guy) will soon have sign ups available on the Club website including an opportunity to fish with top local guides. Keep checking the website for local surf outings, on January 1st and 14th. Looking ahead to January the Southwest Council of IFFF will again be holding its FlyBuy in Long Beach on January 28th, where you can donate your old gear to make room for new and see the best fly tiers in the West.

Don't forget your SPARK OF LOVE DONATION - an unwrapped toy that we deliver to the local fire station. There will be great stories, trivia questions, special awards, good food and good company. You will also get the chance to give me the best gift I could ever hope for – at any time you can say to me, "Marshall I really want to serve on the SPFF Board." We are always on the lookout for fresh ideas and right now we could use help with note taking at the meetings and fundraising. We meet on the first Thursday of every month and we take Denny's by storm. Remember – "Don't just count your blessings – make your blessings count." I can now look back on my last two years as President of the illustrious club with pride and satisfaction. I have, in many ways, fallen far short of my goals. We have not increased membership or expanded our outreach to youth or minorities. We still don't have our own clubhouse or pond. On the plus side our Introductory classes and graduation outing put a lot of smiles on faces and sparked an interest in our sport. I want to give special thanks to the Board for all the work they do. I would like to say "the check's in the mail" but we would need to change our bylaws!

Happy Holidays!

Marshall

Meet Your Board Member

My name is Steve Esgate. I have been a club member since 1994 and on the board from 1995 to the present.

My first memories of fishing was with my little brother on the Klamath River in Klamath Falls



Ore, which was where I was born, and bringing a stringer of trout to my uncle's grocery store, and camping and fishing in Crater Lake. I started fly fishing in 1993 after a trip to the Patagonia store in Ventura. They had a fly fishing department in those days. I picked up a brochure for a fly fishing school from Clearwater House in northern California. I put it on my desk at home and forgot about it. My wife didn't though. That was my Christmas present from her that year. I caught my first fish on a dry fly on Hat Creek and even have a picture.

As for working I was lucky, my broth-

(continued on page 7)

DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President _____	Marshall Bissett	818.259.1551
Vice President _____	Open	
Community Relations _____	Michael Peratis	818.341.6921
Conservation _____	Debbie Sharpton	805.338.8278
Recording Secretary _____	John Roberts	818.248.7448
Education _____	Steve Ebersold	818.340.5382
Librarian _____	Tom Wright	818.367.8827
Membership _____	Jay Bushore	818.970.4685
Newsletter Editor _____	Glen Atkinson	661.305.8409
Newsletter Circulation _____	Richard Ress	818.783.8684
Outings _____	Bill Woods	818.694.9019
Programs _____	Marshall Bissett	818.259.1551
Raffles _____	Steve Esgate	818.723.5122
Special Projects _____	Glenn Short	818.990.5599
Fundraising _____	Kevin Radanovich	818.421.2044
Treasurer _____	Mike Hembree	818.368.8177
Webmaster _____	Ren Colantoni	818.842.0389
Technical Assistant _____	Aran Dokovna	661.296.7633
SWCFF Representative _____	Tom Wright	818.367.8827
Social Media _____	Alex Serrano	818.636.1546
Member at Large _____	Don Lee	818.990.0248

PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Jay Bushore, Membership Chair

The members of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers look forward to meeting you. We hope to get to know you better at the Monthly Dinner Meetings, in our educational programs and on the water. SPFF always welcomes new members.

Members, please introduce yourselves to new members at our monthly dinner meetings and make them feel welcome!



Ray Luciano
Jacob Sutton



(Continued from page 1)

Guides Association.

Robert T. Kazahaya service awards will also be presented but these are a surprise!

The annual awards are carefully considered by the Board and presented to deserving members who help keep the Club thriving. Once again we will be supporting the SPARK OF LOVE program – so please bring an un-

wrapped toy and we will distribute these to the local fire station. We will also be passing the hat to support the local food banks – please bring cash or a check instead of food items. The need is even greater than ever for the seemingly small donations that can make a difference. Those of you who have contributed stories for the newsletter in November will be entered in the drawing for a FREE DINNER – thanks to all you budding writers.



SPECTACULAR SPEAKER SCHEDULE FOR 2017 SEASON

2017 is shaping up to be a banner year for dinner meeting speakers. The Southern California 7-Club speaking circuit has gained a reputation for quality and professionalism throughout the USA and the UK and is a focal point of our Club activities. We focus on local talent with an emphasis on “how to” hands on learning.

Local favorite Pat Jaeger kicks off the season with a show on how Tenkara principles can help you fish in the Eastern Sierra and later in the year international celebrity Gary Borger discusses how at heart we are all predators with a fly rod in hand. We welcome the return of author and guide George Daniel who is thought by many to be the

2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

- Jan 19: Pat Jaeger – “Tenkara & How It Helps Your Fly Fishing”
- Feb 16: Beau McFadyean – “Fly Fishing Montana’s Big Horn River”
- Mar 16: Club Members “Show and Tell Night” (No speaker)
- Apr 20: Spencer Higa – “Fly Fishing Utah’s Provo River”
- May 18: Andrew Harris – “Five Rivers in Five Days - Northern California’s Best Trout Fisheries”
- Jun 15: Gary Borger – “The Angler as Predator”
- Jul 19: Al Q – “Fly Fishing the Surf” WITH WILDERNESS CLUB AT SPFF
- Aug 20: Family Picnic (No Speaker)
- Sep 21: Annual Auction & Fundraiser (No Speaker)
- Oct 19: George Daniel – “Streamers”
- Nov 16: Ernie Gulley – “What Trout Eat”
- Dec 15: Annual Holiday Meeting & Award Presentations

greatest living US angler, with a presentation based on his new book “Stripset”, all you ever need to know about streamer fishing. We also welcome for the first time local record holder and saltwater authority Al Q who will unlock the secrets of our local beaches.

As a reminder, you do not have to book dinner to enjoy these meetings. Tables will be set up for those who just want to enjoy drinks or simply see the show. Obviously if you sign up for dinner it makes it easier for the Club to meet its fifty person dinner minimum.

Mark your calendars now and don’t miss out on a great speaker season.

THE L.A. RIVER

THE SECRET LIFE BELOW THE SURFACE By Marshall Bissett

To answer the perennial question “Are there any fish in here?”, every fly angler holds a secret urge to stretch a huge net across the river and find out exactly what, if anything, is living below the surface. Last Tuesday fellow Club member Pat Case and myself were given that rare opportunity on a stretch of the LA River between the bridge on Burbank Boulevard and the Sepulveda Dam, not a stone’s throw from our monthly meeting venue.



Answering the call from Rosi Dagit (Senior Conservation Biologist RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains) we met our fellow volunteers at 8.00 am beside an LA River that looked more like a chocolate latte than a fishable stream.

The recent rains had swept more than normal detritus into the shallow Sepulveda Basin. Undaunted, Rosi explained the drill; two large (30 foot) weighted seine nets are stretched from shore to center river to form a triangle, while a two-person team works a smaller seine net scooping a mixture of sand, gravel and fish into its fine mesh. No fish is too small to be counted by the irrepressible Rosi who carefully separates the fish by size and species into bright orange buckets. Each area is fished to depletion which occurs when three consecutive passes with the net produce a zero count of fish. Temperature and water clarity readings are taken of each section. The process is repeated in five separate areas and the results carefully recorded in a journal. Rosi explains:” We fished these precise



spots exactly one year ago, and now we are able to gather comparative data that helps us to monitor the health of the river.” Of special interest is evidence of the return of any native species like the Chubb. On this day, we caught over

120 fish, mostly tilapia (an omnivore that was planted years ago, to reduce the mosquito population), along with gambusia, red swamp crayfish (very invasive and unwanted) and a South American visitor called *Plecostomus* which resembles an armored catfish. It is a tribute to the hardiness of these species that they can

survive at all in a muddy hard bottomed trash strewn environment surrounded by predatory birds. While we were netting, two massive bulldozers were systematically stripping great clumps of vegetation and other fish habitat as a reminder that the LA River is first and foremost



a flood channel for the city. As we were wrapping up our gear at the end of the day, Rosi took the time to thank Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers for the \$1000 donation we made to her group last year. I was extremely encouraged to see these funds being put to good use by Rosi and her team.

Three days later, the conditions could not have been more different and I was ready to catch some of the monster carp for which the river is famous. I met Michael Schweit, local guides Chris Leonard and Kesley Gallagher in the Atwater Park area of the river about ten miles downstream at the ridiculous time of 6.30 am. As the sun came up on the gin clear water it was possible to see large singles and schools of (mostly fleeing) large carp. I did manage to



hook up three times finally losing a ten-pound monster at the end of a feisty battle. I will never again test my luck with six-pound test. The moral of this tale is simple; we have a great nearby fishery in the LA River and, if you give your time as a volunteer, you will be rewarded with large fish and large hearts.



Club By-Laws Revisions for 2017

Dear Club Members:

Every year at our December meeting we conduct some formal Club business in accordance with our bylaws. This year we are asking you to review and give your approval to the proposed changes in the Club bylaws listed below. The Board has already discussed and voted in favor of these changes. If you need further clarification, please contact me directly. I have also enclosed the proposed slate of Board members for 2017. They will be formally sworn in at the December meeting.

Your president
Marshall Bissett

PROPOSED SPFF (CLUB) BY-LAWS REVISIONS

- 1 – Combine responsibilities of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary into one Secretary position. This is a voting position.
- 2 – Eliminate 2nd Vice President position.
- 3 – Affirms that Fundraising is a voting position.
- 4 – Affirms that Webmaster is a voting position.
- 5 – Social Media Chairperson is added to the BOD. This will be a voting position.
- 6 – Expand the number of voting members of the BOD from 11 to 15. This action must be put to a vote of the general membership at a regular meeting.

SPFF (CLUB) BOARD OF DIRECTORS (VOTING MEMBERS) - PROPOSED

PRESIDENT Marshall Bissett

VICE PRESIDENT - OPEN

TREASURER Mike Hembre

SECRETARY John Roberts

COMMUNITY RELATIONS CHAIR Michael Peratis

CONSERVATION CHAIR Debbie Sharpton

EDUCATION CHAIR Steve Ebersold

FUNDRAISING CHAIR Kevin Radanovich

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR Jay Bushore

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Glen Atkinson

OUTINGS CHAIR Jim Fleischer

PROGRAMS CHAIR Marshall Bissett

RAFFLES CHAIR Steve Esgate

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR - OPEN

WEBMASTER Ren Colantoni

BOARD MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

Tom Wright – Librarian and SWCFF representative

Richard Ress – Newsletter Circulation

Aran Dokovna – Technical Assistant

Michael Schweit, Don lee, Rosemary Ecker, Bill Woods – Members at large

SWC IFFF News Immediate Openings Available By Tom Wright

Opportunity awaits to help continue the forward momentum the Southwest Council has achieved over the last several years. Only through your participation can the SWC continue to offer events such as the Fly Fishing Faire, Fly Buy, Hall Show, Kern River Tournament and Club Management Days. Please consider stepping up to fill the following openings on the Council's Board of Directors.

Secretary – Melinda Burns has stepped down after seven great years of being part of the resurrection of the SWC. She will be on hand to train her replacement. The Secretary has the extremely important function of communicating with member clubs about Council and club activities and upcoming meetings and events. We will train you on specific software required for the job but you should have some basic computer skills. This is a Board voting position and as such, you can help drive the direction of the SWC.

Faire Director – Connie Bullock is stepping down from this position after doing an admirable job for the last four years. The Fly Fishing Faire is a banner event for the SWC, bringing together new and experienced people, vendors and artists and provides a source of income for the Council to continue its work throughout the year. Connie will be available to train her replacement up to and including the Faire in October 2017. She has many files and operating procedures in place and there is already a staff of volunteers ready to assist in every aspect of the Faire. Software used in the position include Excel, Google Docs and the on-line registration service, RegOnLine. This could also be a shared position between two driven people.

If you have questions, please contact Michael Schweit at (818) 757-3474 or (818) 601-9702.

New Board Position Opening By Marshall Bissett

Do you love social media? Can't get enough of Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter? If so we have the perfect job for you. We are currently reviving our Facebook presence with the creation of a new Facebook page and are looking for a Club member willing to monitor our Facebook page, encourage posts and generally take on all aspects of the Club's social media presence. It is a Board position and has voting rights. We are hiring a professional to get the new site up and running and you would work with that person for a few months until we are up and running.

If you are interested call me at 818 259-1551 or email at marshallbissett@gmail.com



Volunteer Opportunity!

Become an SPFF Project Healing Waters Volunteer.

Spend time with a Veteran and share the wonderful world of Fly Fishing.

We teach fly casting, fly tying, show a fishing video from time to time, share fishing trip stories, go fishing occasionally, and always have a FUN TIME!

Many of the Veterans have become SPFF club members and are enjoying attending SPFF monthly dinner meetings, learning to fly cast and tie flies, and are making new fly fishing friends.

So Come Join the Fun!
1st and 3rd Thursday
4:00 PM to 5:45 PM
Sepulveda Vet Center
9739 Haskell Avenue
Sepulveda / Mission Hills, CA
91343

Send an email to David Hoffberg,
Project Healing Waters Program
Lead dhoffberg@aol.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2016

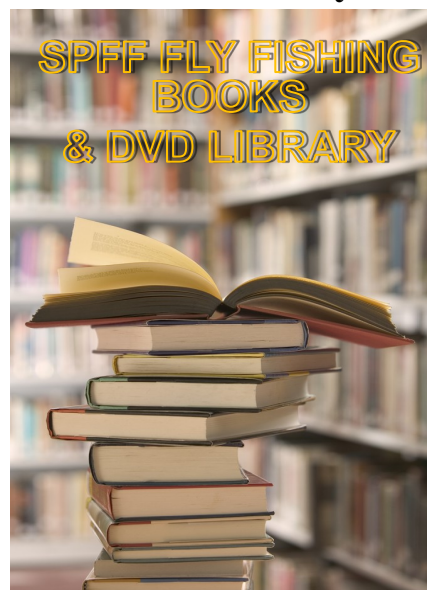
December 2016

30 Day Membership Renewal Notice

PHW Vets	1
Board Meeting	1
PHW Vets	15
Dinner Meeting	15
Christmas.....	25



SPFF Library



You can "browse the stacks" online by going to the www.spff.org website.

All materials are available for members to check out at *no charge*.

A link is provided to contact our Librarian.

60 Day Renewal Notice

Members - Do not forget to renew your membership for 2017. You won't want to miss out on all the fun we have planned for next year!

Plans include:

Club outings such as Super Bowl, ITFF, GSO, plus clinics, tournaments, and more!

EDITOR'S NOTES

FLY PAPER ENTRIES—Please email copies of your photos or "jpegs" at the unedited, original size and other newsletter items to Glen Atkinson at:

news@spff.org

DEADLINE:
3rd Thursday each month
by 5 PM (Dinner Meeting)

2016 Bighorn River Outing By Dale Lopez

We had 18 brave souls this year making the journey to Fort Smith Montana to fish the Bighorn River. 13 from SPFF, 3 from Pasadena Fly Casting Club, one gentleman from the east coast and a friend of mine from Sand Point Idaho. This year was the 10 year anniversary, and as always the river provided loads of action. Muskrat, hissing snakes, as reported by Jim De Angelo, swimming prairie dogs, loads of baby geese and ducks were seen in the river. Down past the 3 mile haul-out we even had an eagle's nest with babies.

Because fishermen don't lie everyone had a big fish that got away. I think we were fortunate lighting did not strike the group during our dinner conversations. The big fish for the week was a 22 1/2" Rainbow caught by Dan Oziel.

I had a very interesting guide the last day on the water. He was the great grandson of crow Indian "White Man Runs Him", Sean Fritzler. I asked Sean how his great grandfather got his Indian name. His great grandfather had never seen a white man until his Grandmother took him to town for the first time. He saw a tall white man 6' 6" and stared at him in amazement. The white man saw the Indian staring at him wide eyed,



Sean Fritzler

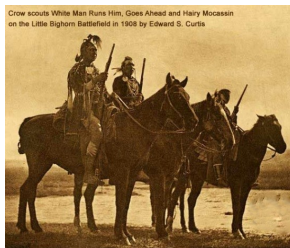
raised his arms and growled at him causing the little boy to flee. His Great Great grandmother named him White Man Runs Him.

Service as a scout



On June 21, 1876, he was transferred to Custer's Seventh U.S. Cavalry as part of a contingent of six Crow warrior/scouts, including Goes Ahead, Curly, Hairy Moccasin, White Swan, and Half Yellow Face, the leader or chief of the scouts. He scouted for Lt. Charles

Varnum's column in the days preceding the battle. In the early morning hours of June 25, 1876, he and other Crow scouts accompanied Varnum and Custer to the Crow's Nest, a high point on the Little Bighorn/Rosebud Creek divide, from which the Little Bighorn valley could be viewed at a distance of about seventeen



White Man Runs Him "enlisted on April 10, 1876 at the Crow Agency, Montana Territory, for six months in the 7th United States Infantry." [1]

that they wished to die as warriors rather than soldiers. Custer was angered by what he perceived as fatalism and relieved them from further service about an hour before engaging in the final battle. White Man Runs Him retired to a ridge along with Goes Ahead, Hairy Moccasin, and Strikes That Bear (an Arikara scout) to join Major Marcus Reno. They were engaged briefly in battle, but would survive the engagement. He then joined Colonel John Gibbon's column.

We stayed at the Bighorn Angler which is a SPFF sponsor. The food is excellent; rooms are well laid out and comfy. The guides are top notch.

This is the third year I have had the pleasure to fish with this great group of guys. I have already penciled in this outing for next year. If you haven't had an opportunity to fish this river consider joining in on the fun next year.



(continued from page 2)

er and I went into business in the early seventies and were very successful. I was able to only go into the office one or two days a month, leaving the rest of the time to travel and fish. My wife and I traveled all over Europe, Israel, and Egypt. Then, when not doing that we took 3-4 months and just drove to almost all the western national parks. Then I started fly fishing

I made many good friends at the club almost right away, and we were off fishing at least once a month or more. Fished all over US and Canada. I think my favorite fishing is in Alaska for big rainbows and steelhead.

Fishing is my favorite hobby now. Over the years I have also collected, and was a dealer in Stamps and Coins.

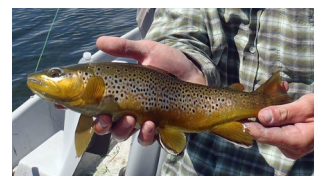
air miles. The scouts could see indications of a large horse herd and the smoke of many morning fires, though the encampment itself was hidden from view on the valley floor. The Crow scouts advised Custer that the encampment was very large. Custer prepared to attack, however. Custer was concerned that during the morning of June 25, Sioux/Cheyenne warriors had detected the presence of his 650-man force, and if he did not promptly attack, the villagers would scatter, thus denying the army the confrontation it sought with the Sioux/Cheyenne forces. Convinced they were about to die in battle, the scouts took off their uniforms and donned Crow war clothing. When Custer demanded to know why, they responded



Jim De Angelo



Jack Johnathan



Brown Trout w/ white fin tips

Casting Clinic at Balboa Lake

1st & 3rd Saturday each month unless otherwise noted.

Instructors are usually available most Saturday mornings 9 - 11AM, schedules permitting.

Catch of the Month



Mike Hembree
Williamson River, OR

Next Dinner Meeting Thursday December 15

Monterey At Encino
16821 Burbank Blvd
Encino, CA 91436

Menu

Tri Color Salad

Entrée:

Turkey with Stuffing
or
Mahi Mahi Fish

Mashed Potatoes

Steamed Veggies

Dessert:

Hot Fudge Sundae

Cocktails at 5:30 PM / Dinner 7:00
Call 818.789.1919 Ext 10 (Michelle) or
email

MonterevatEncino@Gmail.com
Reserve by Monday December 12

\$32.00 Cash or Check, No Cards
Non-dining guests are now FREE!

SUPPORT OUR SPONSERS

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the retailers. Their promotion of our club and its activities throughout the year, and their contributions of products and services help us to continue the various public services that we offer.

A16 Outfitters

5425 Reseda Blvd
Tarzana CA 91356
818.345.4266

West LA A16 Outfitters

11161 W Pico Blvd,
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 473-4574

Fishermen's Spot

14411 Burbank Blvd
Van Nuys, CA 91401
818.785.7306

Culvers Sporting Goods

156 South Main St.
Bishop, Ca.
760.872.8361

Gangadin Restaurant

12067 Ventura Place
Studio City, CA 91604

Great Pacific Iron Works / Patagonia

235 West Santa Clara St
Ventura, CA 93001
805.643.6074

Orvis

345 S Lake Ave
Pasadena, CA 91101
626.356.8000

Kern River Fly Shop

11301 Kernville Rd
Kernville, CA 93238
760. 376.2040

Real Cheap Sports

36 W. Santa Clara St
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93001
805.648.3803

The Trout Fitter

Shell Mart Center #3
Mammoth Lakes, CA
93546, 760.924.3676

Patagonia Pasadena

47 North Fair Oaks Ave
Pasadena, CA 91103
626-795-0319

Sierra Pacific Fly fishers proudly supports the conservation efforts of:

TROUT UNLIMITED



www.tu.org

CAL TROUT



www.caltrout.org

FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS



www.fedflyfishers.org

CALIFORNIA DEPT
OF FISH & WILDLIFE



www.dfg.ca.gov/fishing