

JANUARY 2018

# Headwaters

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
STANISLAUS FLY FISHERS

Stanislaus  
Fly Fishers

A CHARTER CLUB  
OF FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL

MEMBER OF THE  
NORTHERN  
CALIFORNIA  
COUNCIL OF FLY  
FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL

**JANUARY 2018**  
**General Meeting**

**6:00 p.m., Tuesday**  
**January 9, 2018**

**New Location!**

Grace Lutheran Church  
617 W. Orangeburg  
Modesto, CA

As we have now entered into 2018, its back to regular club and board meetings. Thank you to all who attended our annual Christmas party – I hope all of you had a good time. It was nice seeing members that we don't get to see on a regular basis.

Local river fishing started up again on New Years Day and I have good reports on both the Tuolumne & Merced Rivers. I'm sure we will have additional reports at this month's club meeting. I haven't heard of anybody fishing the Stanislaus River, but one of you has had to have been out there. If you haven't been out yet, you are missing some great action. Just from the posts on Facebook, it looks like the Delta is also producing some nice stripers.

Also, don't forget to get your 2018 fishing license, and if you had a steelhead report card for 2017, be sure to make your report before 1/31/18. It can be made online at [www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov).

There are two business items that I need to mention – we

need board members for 2018 and your FFI membership number with expiration date. The board is always looking for members to help out in running our club. We are not asking for you to give up your full-time job ... just a few hours a month with the activities of the club. I want to thank all of those current board members for all of their help this past year and looking forward to what is ahead.

This month Sam Sedillo of Truckee Trout Unlimited will be our speaker. More can be found out about Sam elsewhere in the news letter.

In February Thomas Goodwin will be speaking about Euro nymphing. Thomas has been perfecting his technique on our local waters, and I know from personal experience that I have caught more and larger trout using this technique.

Hope to see all of you at this month's meeting – January 9<sup>th</sup> @ Grace Lutheran Church.

- Jim

# Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Membership dues are \$36 per year for members.

Members must also join Fly Fishers International. Dues vary, but do not exceed \$35 for a single, one-year membership.

## SPONSOR



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## Club News

### *January Program: Sam Sedillo, Truckee Trout Unlimited*



Sam Sedillo works for Trout Unlimited as the Sierra Cascades Field Coordinator out of the Truckee TU (TRTU) office. He works on restoration projects, volunteer operations, fish sampling, and outreach.

Sam will be presenting on how TU is leading projects to conserve, protect, and restore trout and salmon fisheries throughout California. TU is excited to be working on projects that both directly benefit the special fish that exist in the state and also provide

increased opportunities for anglers to catch these fish. Moreover, Sam will be talking about how to fish two of the rivers that Trout Unlimited is invested in, the Truckee and Little Truckee Rivers.

Sam moved to Truckee from Colorado two years ago, where he completed his degree in Natural Resources Management and Fishery Biology from Colorado State University. He's an avid fly fisherman and spent the majority of his angling career there fishing for trout with tiny flies in tailwaters. This, to nobody's surprise, prepared him for spending most of his days on the water in California fishing for trout in tailwaters with tiny flies.

### ***Board Members Needed!***

In order to keep the club running smoothly, we need to have members willing to commit a few hours per month to taking on board positions. We will definitely be needing a secretary and possibly a treasurer. These are two of the club's elected positions. There are other less formal positions needing to be filled as well. Please consider taking on a task or two! Many hands make light work!



## Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2017 Board of Directors

President – Jim Goodwin  
Vice-President – Jeff Bakker  
Secretary – Michael Hewitt  
Treasurer – Bob Ramos  
Outings – Volker Kropp  
Membership – Lonnie Moore  
                    – Rick Allen  
Past-President – Jim Bowen  
At-Large – Bud Heintz  
At-Large – Pat Roe  
At-Large – Bob Nakagawa

*Board Meetings are held  
on the fourth Tuesday of the  
month at 5:00 p.m. at Me & Ed's  
Pizza on Pelandale Ave. in  
Modesto. All members are  
welcome to attend.*

## Club News *(cont.)*

### **Dinner**

Dinner available at the club meetings for the first 25 members. **Suggested \$7.00 donation!**

### **Raffle News**

#### **SMALL RAFFLE**

When held, the small item raffle is \$5 per ticket or 3/\$10 and only for members in attendance the night of the meeting. The items will be on display and the raffle tickets sold prior to the meeting. The raffle will be held at the end of the meeting time.

#### **DOOR PRIZE**

The monthly door prize is for members only. When you arrive and sign in at the meeting, you will receive a ticket for the door prize raffle of a half-dozen flies tied by one of our members. ***Members who donate flies for the door-prize drawing, will receive two regular raffle tickets.***

#### **LARGE RAFFLE**

There is no large raffle at this time.

### **Membership Information**

Membership Dues (\$36) for 2018 are due. For your convenience, we can now accept a credit card for your dues, but there will be an additional fee of \$1.00 to cover the cost of the transaction.

All memberships are "Family Membership" status. Spouses, significant others and children are now all included in every membership.

**Reminder: These are the club dues and *DO NOT* include FFI dues.** FFI dues are paid directly to the FFI and must be maintained regularly since the SFF is an FFI Charter Club. If you are not an FFI Life Member, or do not pay for three years at a time, **you must renew your membership yearly!** Also, remember to list the Stanislaus Fly Fishers as your **Affiliated Club**. This is important due to our Charter Club status. The online application for FFI membership is linked below.

FFI Membership [Application](#)

## Upcoming Outings and Events

**SACRAMENTO SPORTSMAN'S EXPO - January 18-21, 2018**

**PLEASANTON FLY FISHING SHOW - February 23-25, 2018**

**PYRAMID LAKE - April, 2018 (Exact Date TBD)**

**TROUT FEST - April 14, 2018 Moccasin Creek Hatchery**

**EARTH DAY @ GRACEADA PARK - April 21, 2018**

**OPENING DAY TROUT SEASON - April 28, 2018**

**FLY FISHING FILM TOUR / RIVERS OF RECOVERY FUNDRAISER -  
May 24, 2018 (Tentative - Date to be confirmed )**

### ***Special Request:***

Gunny Reyes of the Modesto Vet Center and Rivers of Recovery is looking for donations of used-but-serviceable waders for the use of Modesto-area vets who have participated in the RoR program. These will be loaned to vets for local outings but remain the property of RoR. If you've upgraded your waders and have no use for your old pair, please consider donating them to RoR. Contact any board member if you wish to donate.

## Conservation Notes

### **CalTrout: Fish of the Month: McCloud River Redband Trout**



December 28, 2017

The trout from above the impassable Middle Falls of the McCloud River have been genetically isolated for thousands of years and evolved into their own distinct fish known as McCloud River Redband Trout. They are thought to be one of the oldest populations of Rainbow trout. Today, this species is on life support. The drought nearly wiped them out, but rescue efforts by CDFW have allowed them continued survival for now.

McCloud River Redband Trout once had interconnected populations in the Upper McCloud River and its tributaries. Today, pure populations are limited to just four, small (less than 2 km) streams in the McCloud headwaters; these streams disappear underground into highly porous volcanic rock before connecting with the mainstem McCloud River downstream. Due to their isolation and small population, McCloud River Redband Trout are at a critical level of concern, based on the SOS II report by CalTrout and UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences. They are highly vulnerable to stressors such as floods, drought, and fire- all of which are likely to be exacerbated under climate change.

Decades of fire suppression in the McCloud River Basin has built up potential fuels sources, increasing wildfire risk that could potentially wipe out one or more McCloud River Redband populations. McCloud Redbands and their pure strain are also threatened by predation, disease, and competition from stocked Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, and Brown Trout. Generally, where alien trout are present, McCloud River Redband Trout are absent or have become hybridized. The McCloud River Redbands are a unique and robust species that have persisted through historic drought before, but in the face of climate change, human intervention is needed. Thankfully, conservation of McCloud Redbands is active and ongoing thanks to the leadership of the McCloud Redband Core Group (RCG), a multi-partner organization (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, private landowners, and others), which is dedicated to the conservation of the McCloud River Redband trout. In addition, the western states, several tribes, and Trout Unlimited have been coordinating all recovery efforts under a formal conservation Agreement, with regular meetings and information updates. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has undertaken significant genetic studies, fish rescue operations, and creation and implementation of conservation hatchery plans at the Mount Shasta Hatchery to protect McCloud River Redband trout from severe impacts to extinction in the wild.

As part of CalTrout's Return to Resilience plan for California's native fish, we recommend that a McCloud River Redband Trout refuge be established that contains all current Redband streams and suitable reaches of potential future habitat for translocations. In addition, a captive broodstock program should be implemented to protect the genetic integrity of McCloud River Redbands and help facilitate CDFW's 2013 Upper McCloud River Redband Trout Reintroduction Plan. With the isolation and small population of McCloud River Redband Trout, their status could change rapidly, particularly related to climate change impacts, so it is imperative that conservation actions be implemented.

Click [here](#) for video.

Original link: <http://caltrout.org/2017/12/fish-month-mccloud-river-redband-trout/>



## Tundra Comics



## Video Links

*Got a minute to spare? Check out a few short videos of interest to our sport.*

- [Unusual Suspects](#): Fly Fishing the LA River
- [Tour de Tahoe](#): Backpacking and Fly Fishing in the Sierra Mountains
- [Why Use a Rotary Vice](#) - Orvis
- [Salmon River Diversion Decommissioning Project](#)
- [Steelhead and Salmon on a Fly](#) - Orvis
- [Lost Coast Outfitters Presents : Fly Fishing Putah Creek](#)
- [A Growing Global Movement: 1% for the Planet](#)

## A Cast from the Past

*An excerpt from the January, 1983 issue of the Stanislaus Fly Fishermen Newsletter*

**PROGRAM:** The January program will consist of a slide presentation of a steelhead fishing trip to the Dean River in British Columbia and will be narrated by fellow member Norton Coleman. Members of our club who made the trek to the Dean River included Norton Coleman, Jack Jones, Allan Atherton and Don Hynes. Mike Michalak of the Fly Shop in Redding and Roger Wickman and Dr. Dee Rowe both of Modesto made the trip. From what I have seen and heard about the trip the fishing and the scenery were the type we all dream about. Be sure you attend.

**MONTHLY FLY TING SESSION:** The January fly tying session will be held January 18 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Modesto Racquet Club either in the gym or lounge. If possible bring a lamp as the lighting there leaves much to be desired. The fly tying sessions are open to anyone who is interested in fly tying regardless of your ability level. The fly tying sessions also represent a good opportunity to become better acquainted with your fellow members and also to practice your storytelling techniques.

**RAFFLE:** The monthly raffle will feature a custom rod made with Sage blank and is 9' and throws a #6-7 line. The rod was wrapped by our own rod-building instructor Ken Cochrane.

**SAN FRANCISCO SPORTSMEN'S EXPOSITION:** The annual San Francisco Sportsmen's Exposition will be held February 16-20 in Moscone Center. We will be attempting to car pool to the show and if you are interested we will have a signup sheet at the January and February meetings.

**BOARD MEETING:** The next board meeting will be held January 2 at Gordon Hollingsworth's home. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

**CONSERVATION NOTES:** Remember to renew your license before our first outing of the year.

There are two additions to the Wild Trout Program which go into effect May 1, 1983. They include the Middle Fork of the Eel (from the mouth to Bear Creek) with a reduced limit of two trout or salmon in combination and Kirmen (Carmen) Lake in Mono County where the limit has been reduced from the current limit of 10 to 2.

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"Nothing grows faster than a fish from when it bites until it gets away."

~ Anonymous