



President's Message

Hello, Fellow Fly Fishers! How is everyone doing? Getting out and fishing? Heading up to the mountains and escaping the Valley heat? I hope so! I hope someone is! Me? Not so much, trying to get all the chores done to go on vacation! Whoo Hoo! 2 weeks in much cooler climes!

When you read this, I will be in those cooler climes teaching Scouts the Fly Fishing Merit Badge! It is one of my favorite things to do and will be our 11th year of the program at Wente Scout Reservation in Willits, CA. This year I finally talked my wife Leigh into being an instructor at Camp with me, and can hardly wait until she out-fishes me on the lake! If anyone is interested in volunteering for a very good cause, please let me know.

I missed the July meeting, I had to travel for work. Sounds like it was a little slow, but overall a success. We would like to hear opinions, please let us know your thoughts.

I did mention last month I was going to bring the next subject up a bit, helping out your club. We need folks to help, whether you are a volunteer-aholic like yours truly, or only want to help with small things, we need people helping out. The level of commitment to help out the Club does not have to be total immersion. We need people to handle all sorts of things, from helping out with a plan to start having food, to helping coordinate the sale of our donated items. There are lots of other things that need to be done to grow the club. Do we know them all? Nope! We are growing, and we are learning. We have more members now than we have ever had before! This is amazing! If you have a desire to assist, please, let us know.

As always, I hope to have a large turnout at the meeting (August 13), because what do we need at the meetings? Fly fishers and potential fly fishers! Come to the meeting, bring some beverages, and let's have a good time with our sport. As always, we are open to any suggestions. Anything that you would like to see happen at the meetings? Or anything that you would like to see happen with the Club? Please, feel free to reach out to me, or any Board Member, and tell us. We welcome any and all questions, suggestions and feedback. After all, it is not my Club, it is everyone's Club. The more participation we get, the more successful the Club can be.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone not only at the meetings, but out on the water in 2024!

Tight Lines!

~ Link

Club News

... August General Meeting - Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Our August program will feature Jimmie Morales from Sierra Fly Fisher guide service. Sierra Fly Fisher offers High Sierra and Yosemite fly fishing opportunities.



From Yosemite's Upper Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, and south to the San Joaquin, Kings River and Kaweah Rivers, Sierra Fly Fisher offers the finest High Sierra and Yosemite fly fishing guides, unforgettable trips, trout fishing, instruction, and camps in California's Sierra Nevada. Jimmie's previous presentation to our club on Yosemite/Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPs was excellent and we can't wait to hear what he has to share on "Fly Fishing the Sierras!"

... GGA&C Club Free Casting Clinic

The free casting clinic is usually held the second Saturday of every month from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm at Golden Gate Park. However, due to scheduling conflicts, the August clinic will be held Saturday, August 3rd. The event is held rain or shine and is a great way to brush up or improve upon your casting skills. And you get a hot dog lunch!

... Outings and Events

Anthony Johnson acted as fishmeister for a surf perch outing to Palm Beach State Park on July 6th. SFF piggybacked on a Santa Cruz Fly Fishers outing at their invitation. Anthony, Anthony's father Chris, and Paul Wallace were the only members to take advantage of the offer. While the fishing was good, the catching was more challenging. However, they learned a lot about surf fishing and are eager to try it again. Santa Cruz FF will join SFF for a Stanislaus float for stripers sometime in September. Won't that be fun?!



We've added an outing to White Pines Lake for August 10th. See details below. September 6th-8th we'll return to the Fall River and Circle 7 Ranch. Spots are still available. Contact John Driver. jdriver@stanislausflyfishers.org. And finally (for now), we're looking at a trip to Eastern Nevada and Wild Horse Reservoir October 3rd-6th. **Detailed information on all trips is on our [Outings](#) page of our website.**

... Open Fly Tying Night, Monday, August 19th

The fly night is currently held at Food Fix at 938 11th Street (between I and J Streets) in Modesto. This is easily accessible and food and beverages are available. These are loosely structured show-up-and-tye affairs with flexibility. This month looks like there might be a friendly contest based on tying an Elk Hair Caddis, but you are always free to tie whatever you want. I'll probably be tying flies for the YubaFest auction ... maybe. For YubaFest auction details see the info later in this newsletter.



Turnout is improving and we hope to get a steady number of participating tyers each month. Tying will usually start around 6:30 pm and the session will wrap up no later than 9:00 pm. BYO gear, but for beginners we'll have some equipment you can use. Remember, this is an ongoing meetup to be held on the 3rd Monday of each month throughout the year. Hope to see a lot of you there!

... Fly Fishing Film Tour/Rivers of Recovery Fundraiser 2025

As previously reported, we're already looking into planning next year's fundraising event. Now is a good time to offer any and all suggestions/recommendations for making this an even bigger and better event. With nearly 130 attendees this year, we'd like to boost those numbers next year. Please let us know about the things you think we got right and the things you'd like to see added or changed. We can't guarantee suggestions can be implemented, but we'll do our best to give them all serious consideration and do what we can

... White Pines Lake Outing

The club is hosting students from our Fly Fishing 101 class for a day on the water at White Pines Lake near Arnold, CA on Blagen Rd. off Highway 4. A locals favorite, White Pines Lake is situated along the Ebbetts Pass National Scenic Byway. It's a small, picturesque, high country lake. Instructors from the class as well as volunteers will coach the students as they apply what they learned in class. SFF members are welcome to attend this open outing and pitch in to assist the newcomers if they wish. Or just fish! Everyone is welcome.

We'll start @ 8am. About 9:30 we'll break for coffee and donuts. After morning break, we hope students and members will pair up and fish together. We assume some students will want to stay @ White Pines for the day. Other students will be anxious to try some moving water. Optimally, members will take a student and mentor them a bit on local water. There are no planned fishing routes, but hopefully, a few members will be excited to share some favorite water with a newbie. At noon volunteer/mentoring duties are done.

White Pines fishing notes from a friend who lived there for years: A go-to is a woolly bugger in size 12 or 14, black or green, sometimes with some sparkle. Also, the bugger can be fished with a dropper, such as a Prince Nymph, Copper John, or midge pattern. Also, Sparrow nymphs, Parachute Adams, BWOs, ants, caddis, and beadhead nymphs.

... For Sale

The club has two Renzetti C2003 Traveler vises for sale that were acquired through recent donations. These vises list for \$209 on average. We are going to sell them for \$100 each. One appears to be unused, but the other looks to be very little used. We'll have them at the August meeting. If more than two people are seriously interested in purchasing, the vises will go to the highest offers over \$100 in \$5 increments. Remember, all proceeds benefit our club coffers and enable us to bring in outside speakers like guides who charge for their presentations (and rightly so) as well cover other operational expenses. We will also have our assortment of flies for sale at \$2 ea.



YubaFest 2024

The NCCFFI is proud to announce that Yuba Fest 2024 will take place on Saturday, October 5th, 2024. The 2024 event will be a one-day affair with fly clubs and fly club members invited to a gathering of our fly-fishing clan.

This is a great way for our fly clubs and fly club members to bond with fly fishing on the lovely Lower Yuba River at Sycamore Ranch County Park.

The fly-casting crew from GGACC will be there to help with your fly-casting skills, putting on a program similar to what they do at the Fly-Fishing Show. The Fly-Casting Skills Development Program will be featured. This will be an all-day affair with fun social activities later in the afternoon.

Yuba Fest is a partnership with the NCCFFI, the Gold Country Fly Fishers, and Fly Fishing Traditions. This has been the main fundraising opportunity for the NCCFFI over the past number of years. We seek and welcome your support. More information and details will be coming.

Mark the date and come and have a fun day.

TICKETS ARE \$25 at the event or \$20 advanced sale.

Buy discounted, advanced sale tickets at: <https://events.eventgroove.com/event/2024-Yuba-Fest-98282>



The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a yellow background on the left and a black background on the right, separated by a diagonal line. On the yellow side, the text reads "yubafest 2024" in a red, cursive font, followed by "Saturday" in a black, serif font with a red fish icon to its right, "October 5th" in a black, serif font, and "One-Day-Event" in a large, black, serif font. At the bottom of the yellow section, it says "save the date - more info to come!" in a teal, cursive font. On the black side, there is a white globe icon, the text "FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL" in white, bold, sans-serif font, "Northern California Council" in a smaller white font below it, and a white QR code.

Yuba Fest 2024 Information Sheet

What is Yuba Fest 2024?

Yuba Fest 2024 is a gathering of people celebrating the Lower Yuba River watershed. Our NorCal Fly Clubs, people that are members of our Northern California Fly Clubs or those people that participate in fly fishing, conserving, providing education and a sense of community are encouraged to come and participate.

BBQ Brisket Sandwiches will be served for lunch along with sides, chips, and drinks. The event will offer fly casting education for all levels of fly casting. There will be special opportunities for women fly casting instruction.

It will be a one-day celebratory event with activities for fly fishers and conservation minded people. The Yuba Fest event is an NCCFFI fundraiser.

Learning Possibilities

- Fly Casting Individual Instruction
- Fly Casting instruction using the FFI's Fly Casting Skills Development Program run by FFI Fly Casting Instructors and other Fly Club's Fly Casting Mentors
- FlyTying – Focusing on patterns to be utilized on the Lower Yuba through the Seasons
- Women's Fly Fishers and Women Connect
- Fishing the Lower Yuba – Talk
- Dry Fly Presentation Workshop
- Conservation in NorCal - Speakers

Auctions

- Fly Boxes with flies tied by NorCal Fly Tiers
- FlyFishingGear
- BuddyTrips
- GuideTrips

Where and when does Yuba Fest take place?

Yuba Fest 2024 takes place at Sycamore Ranch County Park on the Lower Yuba River. It will take place on Saturday, October 5th, 2024. The event is scheduled for Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm with breakfast items, BBQ lunch, music, and a celebration in the late afternoon.

There is a beautiful campground at Sycamore Ranch, and it is recommended to reserve a campsite and enjoy the area and after Yuba Fest festivities in the campground.

Who are the hosts of Yuba Fest 2024

The hosts of Yuba Fest 2024 are the Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International who represents fly fishing clubs from Northern California, Fly Fishing Traditions, an educational fly fishing guide service operated by Clay Hash, and the Gold Country Fly Fishers. This will be the 5th year of the event. Due to Covid, the 2020 and 2021 events had to be postponed.

What type of fundraising activities will be happening at the event?

- Silent Auction for fly gear
- Silent Auction for flies donated by fly tying experts.
- Silent Auction for fly fishing trips

- YubaFest T-Shirts for sale
- Breakfast Items that can be purchased when you purchase a ticket for \$6
- A quality lunch that can be purchased when you purchase a ticket for \$10.
- An entry fee for attending the event of \$20.

Who is encouraged to attend?

The Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International, the host of Yuba Fest 2024 encourages members of fly fishing clubs from all over Northern California to attend. Any person interested in fly fishing, whether you are simply curious about what fly fishing is about, just getting started, or an experienced flyfisher. People that use the river for recreation, kayakers, bird watchers, and conservationists.

Women fly fishers are invited and there will be special activities for them.

Will there be speakers at Yuba Fest 2024?

Mark Rockwell, the past president of the Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International will speak about Conservation, Education and Community regarding our Northern California fly fishers and their fly fishing clubs.

Will there be conservation groups attending Yuba Fest 2024?

Groups like South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL), Sierra Streams, Trout Unlimited, Cal Trout are being invited to attend.

What fly fishing skills can you learn at the event?

There will be many opportunities to gain experience and improve your fly fishing skills at Yuba Fest 2024.

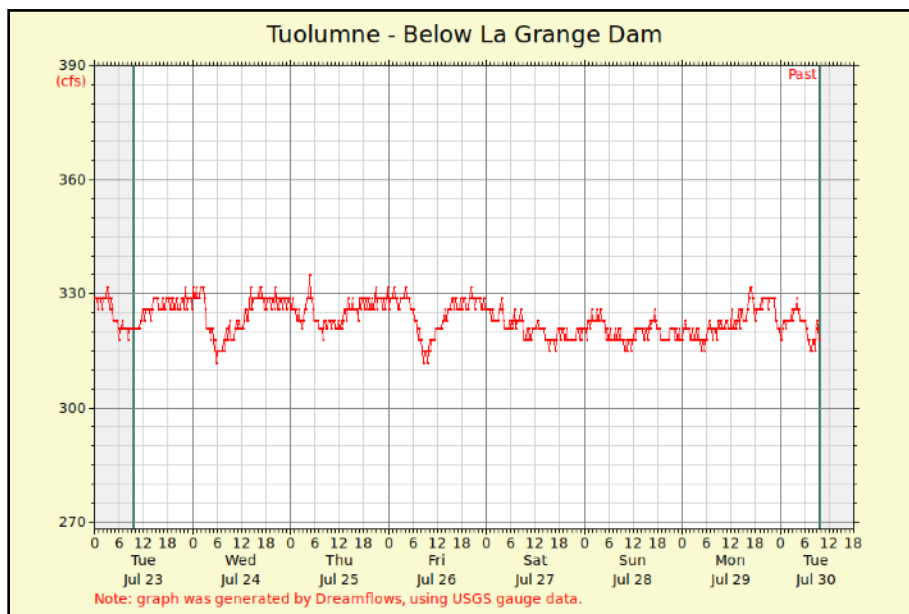
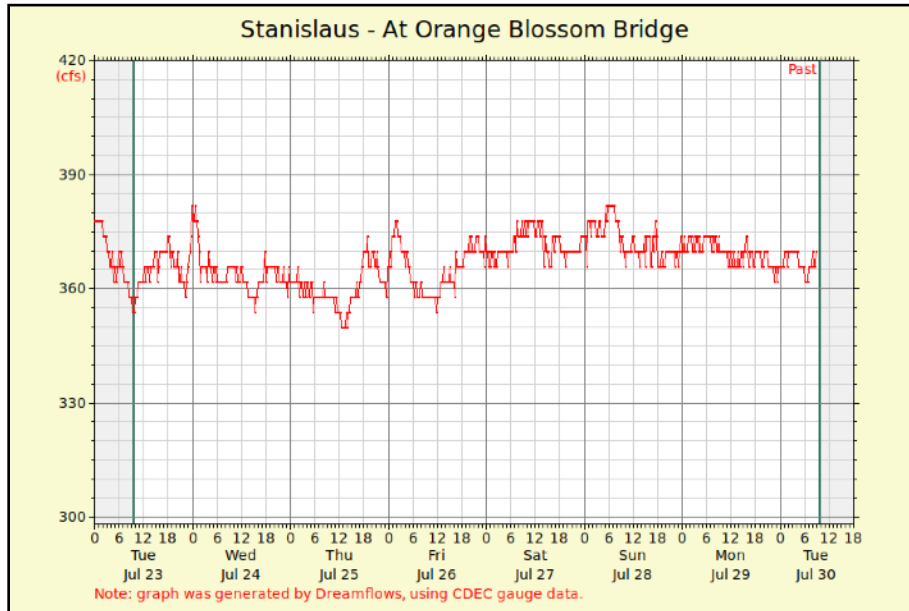
- Fly tiers to show you patterns to use on the Lower Yuba and demonstrate their expert tying techniques.
- Guides talking about how and when to fish the Yuba River.
- Fly casting mentors to help you improve your fly casting.
- Learn about dry fly presentation techniques and practice them on the “Casting the Clock” workshop.
- Women are welcome and will have opportunities to connect with other women fly fishers, women’s fly fishing groups including FFI’s Women Connect and participate in the Fly Casting Skills Development program and other aspects of fly fishing.

Will there be food and beverages available at the event?

- There will be coffee, tea and breakfast snacks served in the morning for purchase. \$6.
- A BBQ Brisket Sandwich lunch with sides and drinks will be served and available for purchase for \$10.

What does it cost to attend the event?

The cost of attending Yuba Fest on Saturday is \$20 per adult, Kids under 18 free. Profits generated from these events will go to the NCCFFI and their partners.



Upcoming Outings & Events

[Click here for a link to our Google Calendar.](#)

- White Pines Lake - Arnold, CA - August 10, 2024
- General Meeting - - August 13, 2024
- Flytying Night - August 19, 2024 - 6:30 pm, Food Fix, 11th Street, Modesto
- SFF Board Meeting - August 22, 2024 - 6:00 pm, Track 424 Brewery, 2150 Yosemite, Modesto
- Fall River/Circle 7 Ranch - September 6-8, 2024
- Wild Horse Reservoir, Nevada - October 3-6, 2024
- YubaFest- October 5, 2024 - Sycamore County Ranch Park, Lower Yuba River
- Salmon Festival, Knights Ferry - November 9, 2024



August Prez' Message
By Clay Hash, NCCFFI President
Clay's Message

I hope everyone has been able to manage the heat we've experienced this summer. It has affected many of our fishing plans. Too hot air temperatures, too hot water temperatures, and stressed fish. In my case it created many time-outs, delaying or rescheduling plans for the fall.

Many fly fishers have headed to the alpine settings to fish higher elevation streams and lakes. Another option has been to fish tailwaters that have colder water releases.

The NCCFFI has been working hard on two major events, Yuba Fest on October 5th, and the Hall of Fame Dinner, on November 9th, honoring Mike Mercer for his body of fly-tying creativity. There are articles about these events in this issue.

Yuba Fest is more of a celebration of fly fishers, fly clubs, conservation groups, and fly casting. It is a fun social event where we all can get to know each other better. I encourage you to attend and enjoy the fun. You can now go to the NCCFFI website and purchase tickets for the event. \$20 per attendee. There are links to the website in the attached article.

The Hall of Fame Dinner is an event that is returning after an absence of many years. The Fly Shop of Redding has partnered with the NCCFFI in a big way to make the event possible. It is a major fundraiser for the council that will help the NCCFFI make its way into the future. You can purchase a table for your club, eight people per table, for a discounted ticket price, of \$140 per attendee. Contact your club leadership to sign up. You can purchase individual tickets, \$150 per attendee, on the NCCFFI website. There are links to the website in the attached article. Please consider attending the event, it will be a memorable experience.

On another subject, the NCCFFI has a board of directors that is made up of representatives from our Nor Cal fly clubs. We currently have 16 of our 26 fly clubs represented on the board either as general board members or as liaisons to their respective clubs. If you are interested in helping with the NCCFFI's efforts to continue to help and connect with our fly clubs, please let me know.

I hope to meet you sometime in the future at one of our events or out fishing somewhere.

Teamwork makes the Dream Work
Clay Hash
NCCFFI President

FLY FISHER'S TOOLBOX

Exercising Good Fly Fishing Stewardship

By Mark Likos, NCCFFI director

Thankfully, the fly fishers I've observed in the field through the years have been decent stewards of the sport. I fish mostly with fellow club members that fortunately were trained from their beginning how to safely fight, land and release their trout. Most of us are primarily catch & release but don't frown on those that take an occasional fish when regulations allow. It's important to preserve the habitat we have for future seasons and for future generations.

I strongly suggest you carry some sort of accurate thermometer in the field. I saw a professional flyfisher some years ago using a really cool digital type of thermometer. I had to have one. It cost over \$30. It didn't last a year. I bought another one because it was so cool, it lasted less time than the first one... I found a common submersible type for under \$5.00 (on Amazon) that takes a beating and works as accurately as the digital, which makes it way cooler to me now.

Trout need 3 things to survive: Clean, cold, oxygenated water, a regular food source and shelter where they can rest & avoid predators.

Most species of trout do best in temperatures in the mid-fifties. They feed, spawn and typically do well at these temperatures when they have a food source and shelter they need. Science tells us colder water carries more oxygen than warmer water. When water temperatures rise, trout can adapt for short periods of time, but will have a much higher mortality rate when stressed due to the low levels of oxygen in the water.

Many if not most articles I've read on 'when-to-stop' fishing for trout, say to stay below 67°F or 68°F. I like to stay below 65°F as my personal upper limit. In summer that will frequently mean getting out on the water early for the cooler morning temperatures, avoiding midday highs (and maybe the afternoons), and come back for the cooler evening angling, IF the water temperature dictates.

If you're fishing a still-water venue, consider switching from the cold-water trout to the warm-water bass or bluegill that are hardier in warmer environments.

When you are lucky enough to have hooked a trout, try to minimize the fight. This is an art in itself. We need to be able to judge the size of the trout we

are fighting so as not to over-fight and break it off. Keep it off the bottom where he may find aquatic weeds or a tree stump to wrap around. Bring it to net in an economical way to where we don't over-stress the animal to point it will die after releasing. A tall order I understand. I try not to fight the trout just to be fighting it. I try to stay sensitive to the variables at hand and net the fish in a timely manner. I suggest always using a net, so you can always keep the fish in the water.

I've read a few articles about the mortality of trout kept in the net and released (after reviving) have a much better chance of surviving the fight than those held up out of the water to de-fly and/or for pictures. If you must take a picture, make sure all is ready before you lift the fish up, minimizing the time the fish is out of water, understanding that animal's mortality is rising with every second it's out of the water. The goal should be to net the fish, remove the fly, revive and release it. with the trout never leaving the water to maximize that animals' chances of survival after landing.

A critical point some anglers overlook is reviving the fish before releasing it. When you get the fish to net, it's exhausted from the fight. Many fish die soon after leaving the net if you don't give it a chance to revive first. After removing the fly, while the fish is still in the net, turn it upstream so the water is flowing into its face, through its gills for a time to let the fish regain some strength before turning it loose. Getting in the habit of letting that fish catch its breath, calm down a bit before releasing, will lower the mortality rate significantly.

So,

- Get & carry an aquatic thermometer while out on the water.
- Take frequent temperature measurements throughout the day to be cognizant of where the water temperature you are currently fishing is in relation to the known mortality borders you want to avoid.
- Always land trout with a net, attempt to keep the trout in the water at all times.
- If you must move the fish out of water for a picture or any reason, plan the move to minimize the air exposure to minimize the animal's mortality rate.
- Lastly, be a good steward of the sport and teach others to be responsible stewards also.



DELTA FLY FISHERS FLY TYING DAY

December 7, 2024. 8am to 2:30pm

Spend the day, tying flies with expert tyer, Ben Byng. Ben will lead participants through a series of bass-focused flies. All tying materials and instructions will be provided. Tying tools will be available to borrow for the day. Breakfast, lunch and dessert included. Come and join the fun!

Sign up <https://link.waveapps.com/baed4a-mnvtr2>



SCAN ME



Explore bass patterns with tying expert Ben Byng!

\$30 per person includes tying instruction, tying materials, breakfast, lunch, dessert, a thank you gift and entry into door prize drawing!

Raffle with great prizes



FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES

262 Rocky Lane
Lodi, Ca 95240

December 7, 2024

8am-2:30pm

For More information email

deltaflywebmaster@gmail.com



Kern River Goldens and Bows

Members Paul Wallace and Bob Fujimura recently fished the waters around the Kern River watershed and had some fun chasing fish. We'll have one or the other of them make a report at the upcoming meeting, but in the meantime, here's proof that they did catch fish!



Click Creek Golden



Click Creek Golden



Fish Creek Golden



Fish Creek Golden

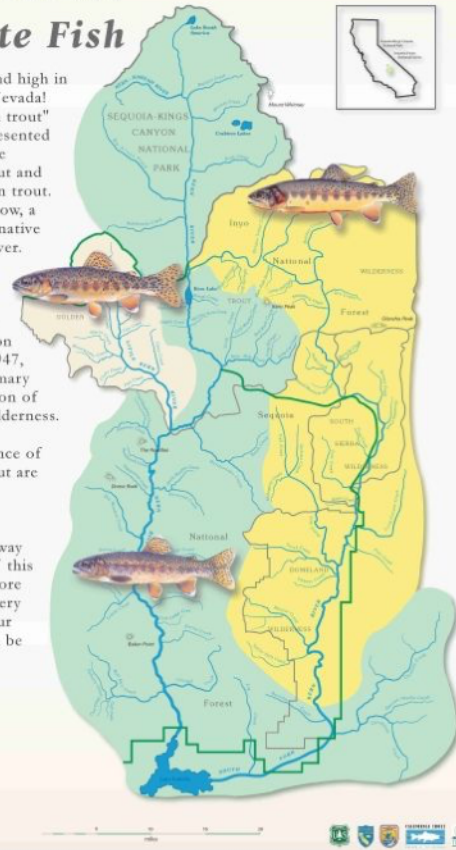


California's Golden Treasure... Our State Fish

Gold can still be found high in the southern Sierra Nevada! The fabulous "golden trout" of this region is represented by two subspecies: the California golden trout and the Little Kern golden trout. The Kern River rainbow, a close relative, is also native to the upper Kern River.

The exceptional beauty and brilliant color of golden trout led to their designation as our State fish in 1947, and is one of the primary reasons for the creation of the Golden Trout Wilderness.

The continued existence of California golden trout are threatened by interbreeding with introduced trout. A major effort is underway to prevent the loss of this valuable resource. More information on recovery efforts to conserve our "golden treasure" can be found at www.californiagoldentrout.org.



California Department of **Fish and Wildlife**

Info on fishing for Little Kern Golden Trout ...

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Inland/Little-Kern-Golden-Trout>



STANISLAUS FLY FISHERS IS A CHARTER CLUB OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL AND MEMBER OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

SFF 2024 Board of Directors

President: Gus Link • Vice-President: Bob Bullock • Secretary/ Webmaster: Michael Hewitt
 Treasurer/ Membership: Dennis Stambaugh • Outings: John Driver
 Community Outreach: Paul Wallace • At-Large: Bud Heintz • At-Large: Roger Ringsted
 At-Large: Anthony Johnson

SFF Membership Information

Membership fees for 2024, currently \$45/year, are now due. For your convenience, we can now accept a credit card for your dues for an additional fee of \$2.00 to cover the cost of the transaction. All SFF memberships are “Family Membership” status; spouses, significant others, and/or children must also be Fly Fishers International members to be official SFF members. FFI General Memberships include you, your spouse or co-habiting partner, and children under 18.

Reminder: Club dues **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! Remember to list the Stanislaus Fly Fishers as your Affiliated Club. This is important due to our Charter Club status as that links you to us on their roster. The online application for FFI membership is linked below. Standard annual FFI dues range from \$20-\$35 based on status (general, senior, veteran, youth).

Mail Membership Dues to: Dennis Stambaugh
 3833 Blue Bird Drive
 Modesto, CA, 95356

[SFF Membership Form](#)

[FFI Membership Link](#)

Directions to Tuolumne River Lodge Tuolumne River Lodge 2429 River Rd, Modesto, CA

From 99 take Hatch Rd east to Central. Left on Central to River Rd. Right on River Rd.

From Mitchell Rd take Hatch Rd west to Moffett Rd. Right on Moffett to River Rd. Left on River Rd.

[Google Map](#)

