



President's Message - August 2025

President's Message:

Tying Night is moving to Tuesdays!

Food Fix is expanding the very successful Comedy night to every Monday. Therefore, we are moving tying night to Tuesday. So, Tying night will be the 3rd Tuesday of every month, which is the Tuesday after the club meeting. This will end the confusion that happens a couple of times a year when the 3rd Monday is not the week after the general meeting. I'm proud that our club is part of the community and supports our community partners like the State Theater and Food Fix.

Tying night is a chance to get together and tie some flies and tell some lies. The food and beer selection are great. For most of us it's a opportunity to actually sit down and tie up something we've been thinking about. If you are new to tying and hope for lessons, you should reach out beforehand. You can call myself, Mike, Link, or Bud. It's the perfect opportunity to try something and collaborate when you get stuck. Even if you don't tie, it's worth coming out for the comradery.

Who would you like to hear next year?

I have been booking some conservation and science speakers for next year. I would like to get some guides on the calendar. Please text/email/call and suggest a guide you'd like to hear.

I'm writing this in the Seattle airport on my way to Petersburg Alaska. We'll be looking for halibut, silver salmon, and my goal a Dolly Varden on the fly. I hope you are getting out and feeling the tug on your fly line!

Tight Lines!
Paul

Link's Lines – July 2025

Procedures and Routines or How to not leave your fly rod on top of the car!

A bit of a preamble: When I get an idea for Link's Lines, I try to vomit it out as soon as possible, otherwise... What was I thinking about? Yeah... This idea hit me the other day, and as it is full-tilt fishing season, I decided to move it to the head of the line.

A Facebook post recently about a guy lamenting the fact that he left his rod on the top of his car, drove off, and didn't realize this until he got home (sans the rod) got me thinking...

I have been thinking about routines a LOT lately. In my life, I have never really developed routines. The short version is that my life has been fairly... I don't want to say chaotic, just always busy, always something new, always on the move. My stint in Outside Sales lasted 18 years, no routines in that job! When I started my new job, all of a sudden I was faced with having to be in the office every day at 8am. Sounds easy right? Oh no it most definitely was not! Developing a routine after having none for the past...30 years (or more!) was one of the most difficult things I have ever done. It took me six months just to start to feel comfortable. I have learned that I may not be so good at routines, but I am good at procedures. Whaaaa?

I think that routines require procedures, but procedures do not require routines. There is probably some work on this by folks much smarter than I, but I am going to run with my personal conclusion.

I figured out pretty quickly that if I had the same procedure every morning, I could get to work (mostly) on time. In that, I developed routines, following those procedures. I also discovered that I have a lot of procedures that I follow with things that are important to me, but those procedures are not routines.

I set up my fly rod the same way, every time. I take down my fly rod, the same way, every time.

And my last procedure before I head home from a trip? I take a walk around my vehicle, making sure I packed everything up. I do forget things, or drop things, or things fall out of my gear, and because of these things, I have developed procedures to check myself. I also keep my rod away from such things as doors and tailgates! Another procedure I follow rigorously!

So, advice o'the month: Develop some procedures to safeguard your gear. Always do a last minute check for gear. I imagine it sucks to lose a fly rod (that you have spent hours with! Not to mention the cost 😞) in such a manner.

Dad Joke o'the month:

Where does a fish keep its money?

In the river bank!!!

Tight Lines!

~ Link

Club News

... August General Meeting - Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Our featured program for August will be a casting program by Amy Terra from Delta Fly Fishers. Terra, a certified fly casting instructor, will be presenting on August 12th at 6pm. Starting with a discussion of casting mechanics, we will explore how to efficiently use our fly rods to deliver the fly. There will be an emphasis on accuracy and the presentation will be rounded out with a brief discussion of women's programs and activities. If you want a bit of feedback on your casting, Amy will be there starting around 5.

Amy is a teacher by profession, mom to a great teenager, and has been an avid caster and angler for the past decade. Amy recently attended our June Family Cookout meeting and set up some casting and certification challenges. Please note that we will be meeting down below the lodge and not in the lodge itself so bring your favorite camp chair.

... 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. The next event will be held Saturday, August 9th. The casting 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! They have poles or bring your own. Please sign up in advance. <https://ggacc.org/event-5922118/Registration>.

Cathy and Paul Wallace have made this a "day in the city," casting in the morning and museum in the afternoon.

Sometimes, a stop at Lost Coast Outfitters; always a nice lunch in the city! They've figured out the BART/Muni connection and it's easy!



... Outings and Events

The Kennedy Meadows outing on the 12th was canceled due to a lack of committed signups, but club president Paul Wallace made his first ever trip to

the meadow and reported catching a few fish and overall having a good day. John Driver and Marco Barragan spent the 12th Euro nymphing the Stanislaus at the Column of the Giants. Hopefully, we'll get some trip reports from the three at our next meeting.

Paul Wallace is planning to fish the Kern River / Wolf Creek August 15-17, focusing on heritage trout, Golden and Lahontan. Anyone who would like to go should please contact Paul ASAP. pwallace@stanislausflyfishers.org or 209-613-2690. This will be a camping trip.

Gus Link is leading the Fence Creek Outing August 22-24. The Fence Creek Campground is on the road to the Clark Fork of the Stanislaus. Those details are also under the Outings tab of the website. If you intend to attend this outing, please respond to Link's Signup Genius email. Leaders of any group outing need that information so that they can properly prepare for it.

September 20th will be the Stanislaus River float from Knight's Ferry to Orange Blossom (Gus Link leading again). Space will be limited as we host the Santa Cruz group. Details to come. Sign up [here](#).

John Driver is co-ordinating a guided Mono-Hot Springs outing October 7-8. This will be fee outing since it is guided and space will be limited. Sign up [here](#).

We have already secured our house the the Circle 7 Ranch for April 24-26, 2026! Signups will be taken after the first of the year.

The Knights Ferry Salmon Festival is on Saturday, November 8th from 10 am - 3 pm this year. We will have our usual information and casting booths there to promote the club. We can always use your help in manning the booths. It's really a fun day so plan on joining in the fun!

SSF is sponsoring a showing of *A River Runs Through It* Saturday, November 9th at the State Theater. Film starts at 2:00 pm, but come early to socialize. Bring a friend or two or three. Watching movies at home is ok, but there's nothing like the shared experience of seeing a film on the large screen. This film adaptation of Norman McClean's book spurred an interest in the sport and more than doubled the fly fishing industry within two years. You can buy your tickets online [here](#).



As always, the board is working hard to provide a number of group outings and your input and feedback is welcome and greatly appreciated.

... DeltaFly Fishers Lower Sac Float Trip

Bob Fujimura, who is a member of both Delta and SFF clubs has extended and invitation to join their annual Lower Sac Trip. Details are below.

Lower Sacramento River Group Float Outing – Saturday October 11, 2025

“Your club is invited to join this annual Delta Fly Fishers outing with host Scott Sugimoto of On the Riffle Guide Service and his guides and support staff for another awesome day on this famous tailwater fishery for resident rainbow trout. Scott and his team have successfully hosted our club annually for several years during the prime fly fishing season. The Lower Sacramento River fishing has been one of the reliable and renowned trophy trout fisheries of the West. Suitable for novice fly fishers but still fun and challenging for the more experienced ones.



“Participants will have a full day of guided indicator nymph fishing from a drift boat with an experienced guide per two anglers. Fishing gear, flies, shuttle service, and all you can eat group BBQ lunch are provided. The guide fee of \$300 per person (double occupancy per boat) includes the guide tip.

“Please contact Bob Fujimura to register and pay your guide fee before September 15 or earlier (email [deltaflyfishers@gmail.com] or voice or text message to (209) 329-1692). Early registration will help ensure that we reserve our guides in advance – so don’t delay in registering if you are interested in this annual crowd pleaser. Registration requires prepayment of guide fees and submission of a DFF liability waiver form. All guide fees are non-refundable in the case of you cancel your trip – however, you can sell your spot to another club member.

“Our annual outing is a fun event for our club members with a long history of repeat participation. Registered participants will be provided with additional detailed information (via email) on pre-event fishing conditions, recommended fishing equipment or gear for optional use during or outside of the guided day, local group dining or lodging options, and other trip activities. On request, non-DFF club registrants can be provided with a Zoom orientation session prior to the event. Scott also welcomes inquiries about the guided itinerary and technical questions about this event (email: scott@ontheriffle.com or phone: (530) 276-1612).”

... Open Fly Tying Night, Tuesday, August 19th - <— NEW NIGHT

Starting in August the fly tying night is moving to the third Tuesday of each month to avoid a conflict with other programs at Food Fix. Hank Olson and the FF staff have been great to work with in providing us space, great food and tasty libations for our nights. The fly night is 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-tie affairs with flexibility. Tie whatever you want, but there may occasionally be a target pattern for those interested in learning a new fly or in perfecting one.

Tying will usually start around 6:00 - 6:30 pm and the session will wrap up no later than 9:00 pm. BYO tying gear please.

... 2025 SFF Dues

Dues for 2025 were due and payable. January 1st. Please remit your dues ASAP along with your membership form and a signed liability waiver. Dues can be paid in person at any general meeting, by check mailed to Dennis Stambaugh, or by Venmo. Links to forms and mailing and Venmo info are [here](#).

Starting this year we are following the lead of other fly fishing clubs and requiring all members to sign a hold-harmless waiver when they join or renew their membership. Any guests attending an outing will be required to sign the same agreement before participating. A copy of the waiver can be downloaded [here](#) and mailed to Dennis Stambaugh at the same address linked above. Waivers will also be available at the general meeting.

... Classes/Workshops

Stay tuned for info on any upcoming classes or workshops.

... Bits & Pieces

Tired of the hard seats at our monthly meeting? Bring a comfy camp chair! We're setting up a little differently to accommodate a new seating arrangement. We had several bring their chairs in May and expect to continue this. Of course, we'll be outdoors and down below the lodge this month and it would be wise to bring a camp chair for June as well.

... Club Communications

The board is seeking some help with club communication and management. We always want to reach out to everyone interested in a club event. But we also never want to be a pest with the frequent marketing emails we despise. President Paul is looking for a

software solution that would help with all aspects of managing our club, from announcements and signups for outings and events, to tracking our successes at volunteering and training, to soliciting donations and handling electronic payments. I know there are software products out there from Eventbrite to MailChimp to a variety of non-profit management apps. I'm sure there is a way to segregate our members by interests, so a person gets everything of interest, but no irrelevant annoyances.

My 2 requests of you:

1) Please share with me or any board member your desire for how the club would communicate and do business with you. Text vs email. Would you like to make online payments, and how credit/debit/Venmo? If you organize something, how would you like to interact with your fellow members? Any experience you have with other organizations for us to copy or avoid?

2) If you have any experience with these apps, please share it with me or another board member.

... Notes From the Club Inventory Meister

On the list for this update:

- Wading boots in 6-8-9 & 11
- Small size (W) waders, kid waders.
- For any float tubers, pontoon boat folks, if you need a set of fins, let me know.
- We have 2 sets of Force Float Tube Fins. These things are beasts! New, they are quite expensive, we want \$100 per set.
- We also have 2 sets of over the boot fins, probably Caddis brand, \$20.
- Last thing is a nice fold up anchor, w/line and float, \$20.

Interested? Let me know, flylink48@gmail.com or ask me at the meeting. I will schedule sell nights throughout the year. As always, prices are negotiable.

I will add sections as I can, and I hope to have the list posted in the near future. Pictures? Not at this point, too much work just getting the inventory cataloged and organized.

Any other questions? Please let me know.

~ Link

... Door Prizes and Raffles

At our monthly board meeting, we made a decision to do away with the door prizes. What?? Why?

Door prizes were instituted when the club was really struggling. It was a small draw to entice members into coming to meetings. The club is doing better now, and we have realized that the door prizes have reached the end of their lifespan.

We will still have small items for awards; however, we are going to do these items by raffle. \$1.00 per ticket, you can buy as many tickets as you want.

I am going to try to have a Mystery Prize at each meeting, I intend to have some fun with this! Be forewarned!

Please, if you have a comment, let me know. If you think we should keep the door prizes as a free bonus, let me know. We on the board always welcome input.

flylink48@gmail.com Talk to me at a meeting or message through Facebook.

NCCFFI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August 2025

It's August and Feeling Like Summer

As we head into August, summer is here, and we have had somewhat moderate weather, which is fine with me. I always feel like spring is too short. We are moving along with our planning for Yuba Fest 2025, which includes a lot of information integrated into this Newsletter. Yuba Fest this year may be the most important one yet, as it will include a conservation rally to allow fly fishers and conservationists to talk about the future of the Lower Yuba River and the fate of its salmon, steelhead, and native trout. This is of greatest importance and deserves your attention and attendance.

- Save the Date - Saturday, September 6th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Where: Sycamore Ranch County Park
-

Why you should come!

- Friendship and camaraderie
- Fly Casting with the FFI's Fly Casting Skills Development
- Rally to Save The Lower Yuba River
- A gathering of Women Fly Fishers
- Rally to Save the Lower Yuba River

You can purchase a ticket and register on the NCCFFI website.

Fly Clubs are Invited to Yuba Fest

The organizers would like to invite clubs to set up a booth and encourage their members to join in the fun, especially those from the Foothill areas.

- Amador Fly Fishers
- California Fly Fishers Unlimited (CFFU)
- Chico Area Fly Fishers
- Fly Fishers of Davis
- Gold Country Fly Fishers
- Granite Bay Fly Fishers
- Tahoe Truckee Fly Fishers
- Members of the old EC Powell Fly Club

We would love to have a representative from each of the clubs mentioned above be represented on the Yuba Fest Organization Committee. We will be in touch with you soon.

Rally at Yuba Fest

As you are likely aware, the Nature-Like Fish Bypass (NLFB) has been approved and is scheduled to begin construction soon. There is nothing that concerned fishers can do about stopping it at this point. What we can do as fishers is to share our concerns about allowing predatory Striped Bass access to the salmon spawning areas above Daguerre Point Dam. We want Yuba Fest to be an opportunity for all fly fishers to rally and put pressure on the NLFB design committee to integrate a barrier for striped bass. I hope that our voices will be loud and heard to make a difference. Come to Yuba Fest and make a difference.

Check out the articles included below, like Peter Burnes article "Can the Wild Salmon and Steelhead Survive the Nature-Like Fishway", Clay Hash's article about fishing the Lower Yuba for many years.

Fishing is opening up, and I hope you all get out to feel a tug.

Clay Hash, NCCFFI President



The poster for Yuba Fest 2025 features a scenic image of a river flowing through a forested area. The text is arranged in a clear, organized manner, providing all necessary details for the event. The background is a gradient of blue and green, with a large white arrow pointing towards the right, which contains the list of activities. The overall design is professional and inviting.

Yuba Fest 2025

A CELEBRATION
OF THE
YUBA RIVER
Saturday September 6, 2025
9am - 5:00pm
Sycamore Ranch County Park
\$20 Entrance Under 18 Free

Activities
Fly Casting Clinics
Conservation Groups and Rally
Fly Fishing Vendors
Auction
Fly Tying Demonstrations
Breakfast and Barbeque Lunch
Live Music

Hosted By
Northern California Council
Fly Fishers International

Partnering with
• Fly Fishing Traditions
• Gold Country Fly Fishers

nccffi.org/yubafest


NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL


Gold Country Fly Fishers

... Salmonfly Project

“Have you noticed a favorite aquatic insect hatch disappear or decline? We have too. We started The Salmonfly Project after finding widespread salmonfly declines across the Western US. But it’s not just salmonflies – many of our favorite mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly hatches have weakened or been lost. **We are here to solve that problem.**

“It all began with a simple question asked by two graduate students: ‘Why are salmonflies disappearing from some rivers and not others? What can we do about it’ Answering this question became the main driver of our graduate research and now, our life’s work. Like most good science, our research has led to many important insights (read about them, [here](#)), and even more questions. Ultimately, our work shows that aquatic insect declines, including those of giant salmonflies, are caused by complex combinations of subtle stressors that vary from river to river. This is why establishing new, widespread research and monitoring programs is so important — without good data, we won’t be able to ‘Save the Hatch’.”

Here is a link to a requested survey regarding your experiences and observations regarding aquatic insect activity in the waters that you fish. The project is looking for experienced fly fishers to complete and submit this five-minute survey. The requirements are:

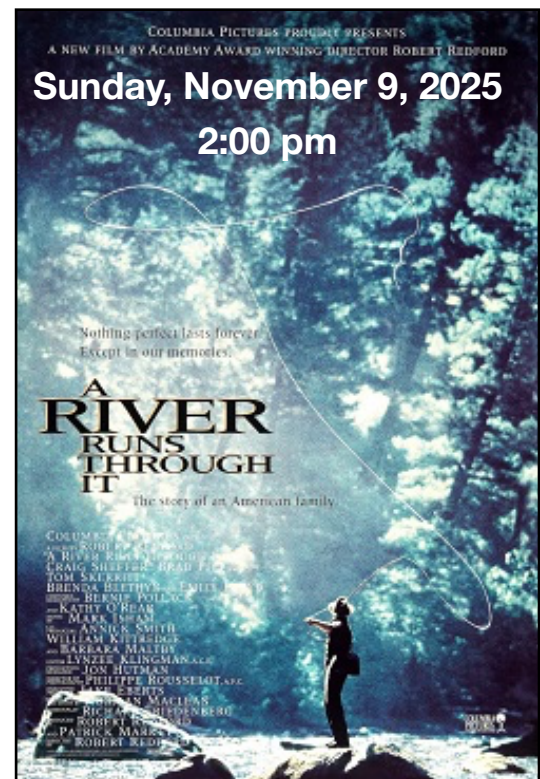
- Regularly fly fish
- 10 years experience fishing the same water(s)
- Ability to identify common hatches.

Questions or comments can be directed to:
conservation@salmonflyproject.org or aeichert@amnh.org



Take the Angler's Survey

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Upcoming Outings and Events

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

- General Meeting - August 12, 2025 - Amy Terra, Cert. Casting Instructor - We'll be meeting down below the lodge. Bring a chair!
- Kern River Heritage Trout Outing - August 15-17
- Fence Creek Weekend Outing - August 22-24 - Highway 108/Clark Fork
- Board Meeting - August 28 - Track 424
- Yuba Fest - September 6
- General Meeting - Jimmie Morales, Guide - September 9, 2025
- Stanislaus River Float - September 20 - Knights Ferry
- Board Meeting - September 25 - Track 424
- Mono-Hot Springs Outing (Guided)- October 7-8
- Knights Ferry Salmon Fest - November 8, 2025
- "A River Runs Through It" - November 9 - State Theater
- Annual Holiday Dinner - December 9, 2025
- International Sportsmen's Exposition - January 15-18, 2026 - Cal Expo Sacramento
- Pleasanton Fly Show - February 27-28, March 1, 2026
- Fall River Outing - April 24-26, 2026



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

SFF 2025 Board of Directors

President: Paul Wallace • Vice-President: Bob Bullock • Secretary / Webmaster: Michael Hewitt • Treasurer / Membership: Dennis Stambaugh • Outings: John Driver
F3T Chair / Outings: Derek Coelho • Programs: Janice Rinehart • Classes Co-ordinator -
Cristie Crawford • Roger Ringsted • Past President: Gus Link

SFF Membership Information

Membership fees for 2025 currently \$45/year, are now due. For your convenience, we can 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. Application and liability waiver links are below.

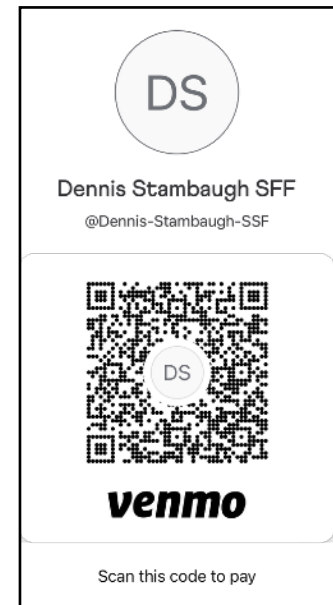
Venmo or Mail Membership Dues to:

Dennis Stambaugh
3833 Blue Bird Drive
Modesto, CA, 95356

[SFF Membership Form](#)

[FFI Membership Link](#)

[SFF Liability Waiver](#)

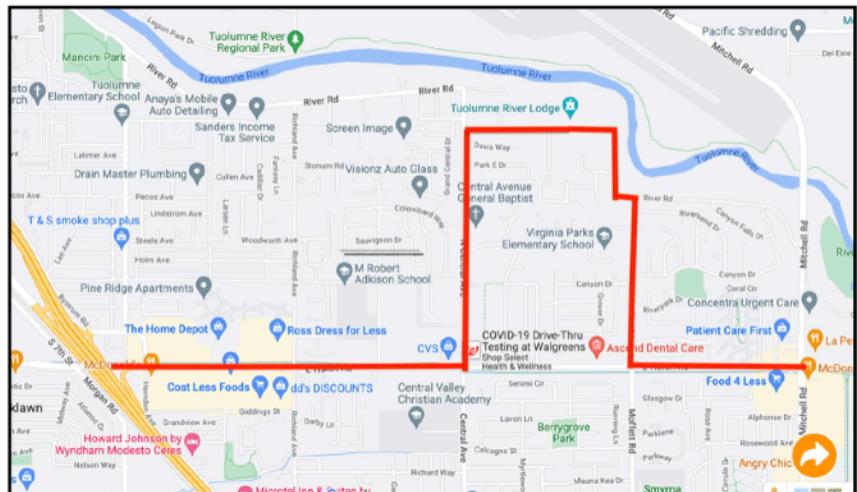


Directions to Tuolumne River Lodge

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.





Aquatic Invasive Species

A Guide to Identifying Threats to California Freshwater Environments

Quagga and Zebra Mussels

Dreissena rostriformis bugensis and *D. polymorpha*



Quagga mussel showing 'threads.' Photo by Steve Wells, Portland State University



Zebra mussels attached to native mussel. Photo by USFWS

Shell – 2-shelled (bivalve), may have dark colored "threads" on one edge.

Size – From microscopic to up to 2" long. Free-floating (planktonic) larvae are microscopic and cannot be seen by the unaided eye.

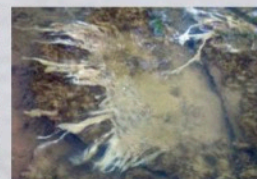
Color – Usually alternating light and dark brown stripes, but can also be solid light brown to dark brown.

Didymo or "Rock Snot"

Didymosphenia geminata



Clumps (early stage) of colonized didymo. Photo by Department of Conservation, NZ



Thick mat (advanced stage) of didymo attached to rock. Photo by Tim Daley, PA Department of Environmental Protection

Algae – Appears slimy, but feels coarse, like damp wool. Can look like wet toilet paper in streams.

Size – Starts as small clumps and grows to form thick mats that can cover river and streambeds.

Color – Pale yellowish-brown to white.

New Zealand Mudsnaill

Potamopyrgus antipodarum



Elongated shell with 5-6 whorls. Photo by Dan Gustafson



Dense colony of New Zealand mudsnails attached to the underside of a rock. Photo by Robyn Draheim

Shell – Single, elongated, right-handed coiling shell, usually consisting of 5-6 whorls, and an operculum (flap covering the shell opening).

Size – From microscopic up to 1/4" long.

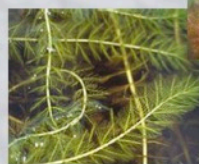
Color – Variable, light to dark brown.

Eurasian Watermilfoil

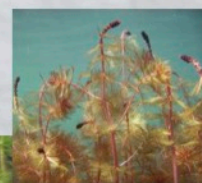
Myriophyllum spicatum



Flower spike. Photo by John Somerville, UK



Stems are densely branched. Photo by Allison Fox, University of Florida, Bugwood.org



Stems and flower spikes. Photo by Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Stems – Branched and 20-30" long, reddish-brown or whitish-pink.

Leaves – Arranged circularly around the stem in groups of 3-6 (usually 4). Each leaf is less than 2" long, soft, and feather-like.

Flowers – Form spikes 2-4" long that are held above the water. Individual flowers are 1/8-1/4" long, reddish.

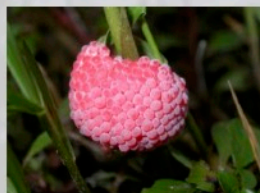
Roots – Fibrous, often develop from small pieces broken off larger plant.

Channeled Apple Snail

Pomacea canaliculata



Adult channeled apple snail shell. Photo by Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources



Egg mass. Photo by Pete Corradino

Shell – Single shell with compact, deeply grooved whorls.

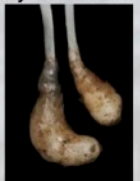
Size – Adult shells can reach up to 3" long.

Color – Yellowish to brown.

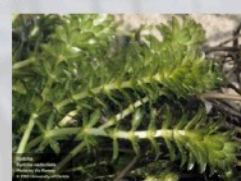
Eggs – Eggs laid in masses of 200-600, bright pink to reddish.

Hydrilla

Hydrilla verticillata



Root tubers. Photo by Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org



Hydrilla stems. Photo by Vic Ramey, University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic Invasive Plants



Saw toothed leaves. Photo by Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org

Stems – Slender, branched, up to 25' long, and green.

Leaves – Arranged in groups of 2-8 around the stem, spear-shaped, 1/2-3/4" long and 1/16" wide. Often 1-2 sharp teeth along the underside of the leaf rib.

Flowers – Grow on long stalks and float on the surface of the water. Individual flowers are 1/8-1/4", white or reddish brown.

Roots – 1/2" long, white, and may have yellowish, potato-like structures, or tubers, on the ends.

To report invasive species, call 1-866-440-9530 or email Invasives@wildlife.ca.gov