

## What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First* ! – updated 19 November 15

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<b>NCDGA page numbers:</b> NCDAG page numbers in the comments section refer to page numbers in the Northern California DeLorme Atlas and Gazetteer.				

Fishery	Water Conditions	Fishing Conditions, Techniques, and Hatches	Flies	Comments
<b>Baum Lake</b>	Clear, mid 40s, lake level is normal.	<b>Fishing is good.</b> Not a morning person? Fishing picks up midday and is a great option for those avoiding the 0-dark-30 hours. Both floating and sinking lines work with good success, depending on what fly used. If using buggers or streamers, throw with a sinking line around weed beds. A BWO parachute with a midge pupa dropper on a floating line in main current has also been productive. Make sure to change flies regularly, fish are smart and will recognize flies after seeing same fly a few drifts. Fishing is consistent all winter at Baum.	<b>Attractor dries</b> irresistible adams, parachute light cahill, Rio Grande trude, parachute adams, paralyzer, royal coachman, crystal stimulator, renegade, royal wulff, para wulff, (#10-18). <b>BWO/Baetis emerger/dries</b> and <b>Lake woolly buggers/streamers</b> J Fair wiggle tail (olive, brown, burnt orange) BH woolly bugger (black, olive, brown), crystal bugger, mini bugger black/olive, seal bugger (rust, olive, black), hale bopp leach (brown, olive). (#12-16). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> and <b>Midge pupa</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Light fishing pressure during the week, can be heavy on weekends. A float tube or pram is best. NCDAG pg 48
<b>Eagle Lake</b> (near Susanville)	Clear, low to mid 50's F.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> Fishing is better early morning and with some weather to stir up the scuds, snails and tui chub minnows. Sunny calm days are usually slow with fewer trout coming into the shallows to feed. As the day goes on and sun moves higher, fish are moving into deeper water. Best to have float tubes or kayaks to cover as much water as possible, the trout are always on the move. Using a sparse olive and white tui-chub is best, but scuds, buggers and damsels have also producing.	<b>Lake woolly buggers/streamers</b> J Fair wiggle tail (olive, brown, burnt orange) BH woolly bugger (black, olive, brown), crystal bugger, mini bugger black/olive, seal bugger (rust, olive, black), hale bopp leach (brown, olive), Mack's bugger, bunny leach (white), chub minnow (#6-12).	Moderate fishing pressure. CDAG pg 44. Fishing is open until 31 Dec.
<b>Feather River, N.F.</b> (Cresta powerhouse to Lake Oroville)	Clear, low 50s F, Flows not available.	<b>Fishing is good.</b> Fishing remains open in Butte County below Cresta Powerhouse. High stick nymphing riffles and pocket water with a rubber legged stone and a beadhead dropper is producing some nice fish. Use plenty of split shot to get flies down. Look for trout rising to midges and BWOs in pools and tailouts in the afternoon. Fish a dry with a dropper or tandem midges under an indicator. Swinging flies at the end of the drift will imitate rising insects. Best fishing is around Pulga.	<b>Golden stonefly dries</b> Hogan's split-wing stone, hedgehog, Hogan's hangin stimi, crystal stimulator, yellow humpy, rubber-legged stimulator, Rogue foam golden stone, Gould's half down golden, Sloan's paralyzer, Carlson's egg sack stone (#8-12). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> and <b>Golden stonefly nymphs, Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Isonychia nymphs</b> Mercer's poxyback Isonychia nymph, beadhead twenty incher, prince, Hogan's isonychia (#10-12).	Expect light fishing pressure. Access along Hwy 70. NCDAG pg 59. CDAG pg 51.
<b>Feather River</b> (Hwy 70 Bridge to Gridley)	Clear, mid 50s F, good flow in low flow (800 cfs), high flow below the Afterbay (1,200 cfs) at Gridley.	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Not a lot of salmon showing up this year and hatchery steelhead are slow to move up the river system. Good numbers of 2-4 pound spring run and some big wild steelhead with a few hatchery steelies mixed in. Best fishing is in the low flow section with most of the spring run and most of the anglers. To get away from the bulk of the crowds on the weekend, search the high flow section (below the outlet) to find spawning salmon with steelhead behind them looking for eggs. Eggs, green caddis pupa, and BWO nymphs are the top producers. Fish riffles, tailouts and the occasional redd on flats. Best days are overcast, bringing out substantial hatches of BWO's. December is the time to pull out the switch rods and wet flies. Winter steelhead are eager to eat a swung fly once the salmon and eggs are gone.	<b>Egg patterns</b> Sucker spawn oregon cheese, Fox's fertilizer (shell pink, fire orange, flo red), glow-bug (peach, pink, champagne, light yellow, cheese, chartreuse), micro egg (flo fire orange, flo orange, flo red, shell pink), Leeson's crystal egg (chartreuse, orange) Pettis' Unreal egg clusters (gold nugget, burnt orange, dark roe, light row), clown egg, Pettis' unreal single egg, unreal egg cluster (dk roe, burnt orange) (#8-16). <b>Caddis pupa/emergers</b> Fox's poopah (olive, tan), Hot wire caddis, Anderson's peeking green, green machine, Fox's springtime poopah, Amber wing prince, M's Dirty Bird, Hogan's steelie caddis, Silvey's submerger caddis (olive, tan), Silvey's edible emerger (#12-18). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> and <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere).	Moderate fishing pressure. Access from Oroville State Wildlife Area. The stretch above Hwy 70 is closed until Jan 1. Be sure to have your steelhead card signed and dated before fishing. NCDAG pg 68, 78.

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<b>Frank's Tract &amp; San Joaquin Delta</b> (including Mildred, San Joaquin River, and nearby sloughs)	Clear to off color (2-5 ft visibility, mid 50s F.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> A good number of fall run stripers are now in the delta. Best reports are still from the Sacramento and San Joaquin River areas, or close by. Outgoing tide is best, but incoming can be good as well. Slack high is tough. T-14 with medium to large clousers with a fast strip is needed. Mix in a pause once in a while. Evening topwater action is pretty good with lots of small stripers and a few good ones mixed in. The better stripers are running 3-7 lbs, with lots of rats around. Wind will slow fishing dramatically. Tule fog is starting to show in the mornings.	<b>Striper patterns</b> Flashtail clousers and whistlers in chartreuse/white, pink/white, all white, and black (2/0-3/0), pearly poppers (red/yellow, green/yellow), gurglers, crease fly.	Boat needed - rentals are available at Sugar Barge Marina on Bethel Island. Heavy fishing pressure on weekends. NCDAG pg 96 and 106. New CDAG pg. 72, 73.
<b>Klamath River</b> (Iron Gate to Seiad Valley)	Clear, high 40s, good flow (1030 cfs below Iron Gate).	<b>Fishing is good.</b> First push of steelhead have made it up to Iron Gate. Reports of half pounder and adults on rubber legged stones and egg patterns. Fish the runs and tailouts with a swung wet fly or eggs under an indicator. BWO hatching midday on overcast days. Fish off the main flow where fish will key on BWO nymphs. Swinging small intruders, assassins, brindle bugs, and silver hiltens on a Scandi line with a fast sinking tip will produce. Recent rain will bring more fish up. Look for consistent fishing here throughout the winter.	<b>Egg patterns</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect drift boat and pontoon boat traffic on the weekends. Access above and below Interstate 5 and along hwy 96. New CDAG pg. 25.
<b>Putah Creek</b> (below Lake Berryessa)	Slightly off color, low 50s F, 143 cfs below lake Berryessa.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> Most of the trout are pre-spawn but staging to spawn below riffles. Best fishing is from early morning to around 1pm. Nymphing with WD40s in olive, WD50s, zebra midge, tungsten black beauty flashback, and BWO are producing. Small indicators with small split shot on 6x tippet is the best tactic. If you see trout in shallow water please do not fish for them, they are spawning and we want to protect the future of this fishery. Best days are weekdays with lots of fishing pressure on the weekends.	<b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> Hogan's S&M nymph, Hogan's better baetis, Burk's crystal hunchback, Hogan's olive military may, tailwater tiny, flashy pheasant tail, Sloan's mighty may, Burk's olive hunchback two-tone, Mercer's micro mayfly, tungsten split case BWO (#16-22). <b>BWO/Baetis emerger/dries</b> and <b>Midge pupa</b> (Listed elsewhere in report).	Decreased fishing pressure. NOTE: Take precautions not to transport New Zealand mud snail. Zero limit. NCDAG pg 85, 95.
<b>Pyramid Lake</b> (outside of Reno)	Clear, good lake level.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> As temps fall Lohanton Cutthroat will move in along the beaches. A 250 grain shooting head is best to get a tui chub or bugger down. Vary the speed of the strip to find what will entice them to eat. Lately, a fast strip with a tui-chub pattern has been the ticket. As water temps fall, trout will be less eager to chase. Best fishing is morning and evening around Wino, Separator and Blockhouse. Best days are when there is chop on the water stirring up the water.	<b>Pyramid Flies</b> woolly worms, pyramid buggers (black/purple, chartreuse/white, olive, black), Pyramid snail (black/purple, chartreuse/white, olive, black) (#8-12)	Expect light to moderate fishing pressure. Fishing from a float tube or pontoon boat is an option. Note: Day permit required.
<b>Sacramento River, Lower</b> (below Keswick Reservoir)	Green tint, low to mid 50s, normal flow 4,200 cfs.	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Not a lot of salmon left in the river but eggs are still good producers for big trout along the edges in the morning. Methodically fish the double egg rig for trout behind salmon redds. Trout are starting to key on midges and BWO midday on cloudy days. On warm days, fish caddis pupa and PMD nymphs in riffles and tailouts. Good reports of steelhead from Clear Creek to Los Molinos. Rubber legged stones and egg dropper (eggs and legs) in the seam between fast and slow water. A few reports of anglers swinging egg sucking leeches and small intruders on switch rods below Battle Creek with some success.	<b>Caddis pupa/emergers</b> Fox's poopah (olive, tan), Hot wire caddis, Anderson's peeking green, green machine, Fox's springtime poopah, Amber wing prince, M's Dirty Bird, Hogan's steelie caddis, Silvey's submerger caddis (olive, tan), Silvey's edible emerger (#12-18). <b>River woolly buggers/streamers</b> J Fair wiggle tail (olive, brown, burnt orange) BH woolly bugger (black, olive, brown), crystal bugger, mini bugger black/olive, seal bugger (rust, olive, black), hale bopp leach (brown, olive), Mack's bugger, bunny leach (white), chub minnow (#6-12). <b>Golden stonefly nymphs, attractor beadhead nymphs, eggs</b> and <b>BWO nymphs</b> and <b>Egg patterns</b> (listed elsewhere).	Drift boat fishing is provides best access. Market St, Convention Center, Barge Hole and below Cypress Bridge are all good spots to wade. NCDAG pg 46, 57. New CDAG pg. 41

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<b>Sacramento River, Upper</b> (Lake Siskiyou to Lake Shasta)	Clear, low 50'sF. Slightly low flow (172 at Delta).	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> Best fishing is midday to late afternoon when trout are keying on BWO, beadhead nymphs and the remaining October caddis. Good reports are coming from areas of Conant and Castella. Light rain and cloudy days will increase the BWO hatch. High stick nymphing, pre-hatch, is producing trout on beadhead nymphs and BWO nymphs. Great time of year to have the river to yourself.	<b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> royal flush, Hogan's Steelie Caddis, hare's ear, twenty incher, Hart's dark lord, copper john (red, copper) bird's nest, black AP, prince of darkness, king prince, dirty bird (tan, olive), Hogan's drifter, biotic nymph, Hogan's Red Headed Step Child (#10-18). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>October Caddis dries</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Be careful when wading. Access to Mossbrae falls at Scarlet Way is posted no parking. NCDAG 36, 46.
<b>Trinity River</b> (near Lewiston)	Clear, low to mid 50s F, low flow (300 cfs).	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> Recent rains have moved steelhead through the system. Swinging small wet flies on a light polyleader is hooking fish in tailouts, runs and pools. While the water temps are still warm, skating up steelies on dries early (before crowds put them down) is worth a shot. The bulk of the anglers are fishing stoneflies, egg patterns and beadhead nymphs under an indicator with good success. Best plan is to move around to find steelhead. Expect more steelhead moving through the system with an increase of water from winter storms.	<b>Steelhead wet flies/streamers</b> Mossback, assassin (natural, copper), Herniator (silver, copper), cone sucking bunny, egg sucking crystal leach, general practitioner (black, orange), comet, green butted skunk, coal car, skykomish sunrise, prism, purple peril, silver hilton, winters hope, Gareth's fire fly, red ant (#4-8). <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Egg patterns</b> (listed elsewhere).	Moderate to heavy fishing pressure in the Lewiston to Douglas City area. Fly only section below Lewiston Lake is closed. NCDAG pg 45. New CDAG pg. 31, 32, 40.
<b>Truckee River</b> (Trout Creek to CA Stateline)	Clear, low 50's. Low- flow 97 cfs near Floriston.	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Brown trout are about done with spawning and are not too eager to eat right now but they can still be caught stripping or swinging streamers. Best action is during the middle of the day when trout are feeding on BWO's. High stick nymphing and swinging BWO's in riffles and tailouts can be productive. Fish the soft seams and tailouts with BWO dries if rising trout are found. With the increase of storms, rain, and winter weather fishing productivity will increase, with more insect activity. Best fishing is below Boca where there is more water and actively feeding trout.	<b>Crayfish patterns</b> Hogan's puff claw dad, Cutter's goblin, mercers deaddrift crawfish, Whitlock's near-nuff crayfish, cinnamon woolly bugger, crazy dad, crawdad(rusty brown), Hogan's rattle tube (#4-8). <b>River woolly buggers/streamers</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Access along Hwy 89 down through Hirshdale. NCDAG 81.
<b>Yuba River, Lower</b> (from Englebright dam to Marysville)	Clear, low to mid 50s F, moderate flow 636 cfs below Englebright.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> Salmon are in the river building redds and dropping eggs. Drifting egg patterns below salmon redds will find trout eager for an easy meal. For best results, sneak up on redds with an egg on 4x tippet. Reports of a few Feather River steelhead caught on the Yuba. Look for hatches of BWO's on cloudy and rainy days. Fishing a dry with a BWO dropper or high stick nymph BWO soft hackles through riffles. Good reports from Hammond Grove and below Daguerre Dam. Above the Hwy 20 bridge is closed until Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> .	<b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> Lawson's PMD emerger, fluttering mayfly cripple PMD, last chance PMD cripple, Quigley's Hat Creek PMD emerger, Brook's KD dun PMD, loopwing paradun PMD, Brook's sprout PMD, PMD biot comparadun, hackle stacker PMD, PMD hair wing dun, PMD sparkle dun, PMD parachute (#14-18) <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> and <b>Midge pupa</b> and <b>Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere).	Water above Hwy 20 bridge is open from Dec 1 until Aug 31. Access at the Hwy 20 bridge and Sycamore Ranch campground. NCDAG pg 78,79.
<b>Other Reports American River.</b> Fishing is slow, the flows are low. There are some salmon, but few reports of steelhead (1/2 lb to adults). The section from Hoffman power lines and above is now closed making heavy pressure below the open section. Caddis, Mayflies, and glowbugs are still most productive for nymphing. Swing brindle bugs or silver Hiltons on a Skagit or Scandi line with a switch or spey rod. Best access points are river bend, Gristmill, and Watt Ave.				
<b>WH&amp;WN™ FREE flyfishing report would not be possible without the help of:</b> Jon Baiocchi/Baiocchi Troutfitters, Tom/Lake Almanor Fly Fishing Co., Craig Nielsen/Shasta Trout Guide Service, Jordan Romney (Putah Fly Fishing Guide), Victor Babbitt/Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters/Tahoe, Jerry/The Troutfitter/Mammoth Lakes, Ted Fay Flyshop/Dunsmuir, Greg/Sweeny's sport shop, Andy/Kiene's Fly Shop/Sacramento, Ken's Sporting Goods/Scott Freeman-EW report. Special thanks to all the WH&WN™ subscribers who have submitted their fishing reports for the fisheries listed in WH&WN, you help keep us honest, accurate, and up-to-date.				