

**What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First!* – updated 26 June 2009**

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**NCDGA page numbers:** NCDAG page numbers in the comments section refer to page numbers in the Northern California DeLorme Atlas and Gazetteer.

<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Water Conditions</b>	<b>Fishing Conditions, Techniques, and Hatches</b>	<b>Flies</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Davis Lake</b> (near Portola off hwy 70)	Clear, low 60s F.	<b>Fishing is good.</b> The damsel hatch is in full swing. Use a slow retrieve on a floating or slow sinking line with a longer leader. The best hatches of damsels are from Freeman to Cow Creek. Stripping a bugger around weed beds will get some bigger rainbows. A good callibaetis hatch is going in the afternoon near the islands of Freeman Creek. Try using a sparkle dun with a Jansen's callibaetis nymph dropper. There is a mixture of both small (6-8 inches) and larger rainbows (15-18 inches) showing.	<b>Damsel fly nymphs/dries</b> Burk's sierra damsel (tan, olive), Fox's damsel nymph olv/cinn, mono eye damsel, Burk's stillwater nymph (tan, olive), No name damsel, foam swimming damsel, Stalcup's ultra damsel, J Fair wiggle tail nymph (olive, fiery brown), adult blue damsel, Burk's adult damsel, horny damsel, damsel dragon (#12-16). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> and <b>Callibaetis dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Lake woolly buggers/streamers</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Midge pupa</b> (listed elsewhere).	Moderate to heavy fishing pressure. NCDAG pg 70.
<b>Deer Creek</b>	Slight tint, mid 50's F, normal flow.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> High stick nymph in the morning with a beadhead nymph and a small mayfly nymph dropper. Also drift attractor dries with a beadhead dropper. Fishing slows from 1-3pm with few insects and fish rising. Drifting an ant or grasshopper pattern along the bank and in pocket water will bring up a few trout. Best fishing is from 4pm to dusk starting with caddis and finishing with stoneflies at dusk. Best fishing is from Alder to Elam campground. This is a good area for new anglers practicing their fly fishing skills and for kids with plenty of action on 6-12 inch rainbows.	<b>Attractor dries</b> irresistible adams, parachute light cahill, Rio Grande trude, Pink & lime trude, yellow humpy, parachute adams, paralyzer, royal coachman, crystal stimulator, renegade, royal wulff, sierra bright dot, grey wulff, pink cahill, light cahill, royal coachman, para wulff, (#10-18). <b>Caddis pupa/emergers</b> Mercer's tungsten swing caddis, Lawson's caddis emerger (tan, olive), Hogan's Yuba pupa, Hogan's swingin' caddis, green bean, translucent pupa, Amber wing caddis, pulsating caddis (tan, olive), 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 steellie caddis, Hogan's good & plenty nymph (tan, olive), Silvey's prime time pupa, Silvey's submerger caddis (olive, tan), Silvey's edible emerger (#12-18). <b>Golden stonefly dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Access off Hwy 32 from Deer Creek bridge upstream to Hwy 36. Catch & Release from Deer creek falls down stream to Ishi Wilderness. NCDAG pg. 58.
<b>Fall River</b> (Cal Trout access to Spring Creek Rd.)	Clear, normal flow.	<b>Fishing is good to very good.</b> Best fishing is from 9am to 1pm and 4pm to dusk. In the morning trout are actively rising to PMD's in the flats above Cal Trout. On cloudy days, fish are feeding on BWO's and midges. Midday, strip streamers in the deeper bends with a mohair leech or green bugger on a type 2 sink tip. Callibaetis are active further upstream in the afternoon. The hex hatch is going strong from 7-9pm in the lower river. Start with a slow retrieve on an intermediate line with Mercer's rag hex nymph. When fish start rising to dries, switch to a hex emerger or dun. The hex hatch will continue for another two weeks.	<b>Callibaetis dries</b> sparkle dun, captive dun, CDC callibaetis transitional dun, Brook's CDC dun callibaetis, fluttering mayfly callibaetis, CDC biot comparadun, callibaetis extended body, Quigley's flashwing cripple, callibaetis cripple, Brook's sprout callibaetis, hackle stacker callibaetis, loopwing callibaetis, parachute adams, Callibaetis extended body (#14-16). <b>Midge pupa</b> glass bead midge (red, black), crystal dip, disco midge, brassie, desert storm, zebra midge (rust, black), WD40 (olive, chocolate) WD50 tungsten (olive/wine), skinny nelson, biot midge, crystal HBI (#18-22). <b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Lake woolly buggers/streamers</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>BWO/Baetis emerger/dries</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Pram with electric motor needed. Public access is at Cal Trout. NCDAG pg 38. CDAG pg 35.
<b>Feather River, N.F.</b> (Cresta powerhouse to Lake Oroville)	Slight tint, mid 50s F, 476 cfs @ Grizzly Creek.	<b>Fishing is fair to good.</b> In the morning, the trout are feeding on caddis, small mayflies and stonefly nymphs. Most productive method is highsticking a larger stonefly with a smaller mayfly nymph dropper in the deep runs. Dark nymphs are producing best. Dry fly action is best from 6pm to dusk with trout rising to caddis and stonefly dries. Expect higher flows between 400 and 500 cfs in the month of June from Grizzly Creek to the Lake Oroville. Good reports from Beldon and Rock Creek. The trout are running 10-16 inches.	<b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> royal flush, Hogan's Steellie Caddis, hare's ear, twenty incher, Hart's dark lord, copper john (red, black, lime, copper) Hogan's amber wing attractor, Tungsten Hotwire prince (olive/copper & Green/Yellow), Queen prince, 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>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Golden stonefly dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Expect light fishing pressure. Access along Tobin, Rock Creek, Beldon and Caribou. Access along Hwy 70. NCDAG pg 59. CDAG pg 51.

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<b>Hat Creek</b> (PH#2 to fish barrier)	Clear, low to mid 50s F, normal flow.	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Start the day fishing the PMD and trico hatch, which start around 9am. Look for selective risers in the flats. A sparkle dun with a captive dun cripple fished on a long leader is a good combo. There are some caddis around late afternoon. Cover lots of water to find the few risers. In the evening yellow stones, caddis, and rusty spinners are out once the sun is off the water. Nymphing the powerhouse riffle is consistent in the morning and again in the evening. Use size 16-20 mayfly nymphs in the deep slot.	<b>Callibaetis dries</b> sparkle dun, captive dun, CDC callibaetis transitional dun, Brook's CDC dun callibaetis, fluttering mayfly callibaetis, CDC biot comparadun, callibaetis extended body, Quigley's flashing cripple, callibaetis cripple, Brook's sprout callibaetis, hackle stacker callibaetis, loopwing callibaetis, parachute adams, Callibaetis extended body (#14-16). <b>Caddis cripples/dries</b> Hogan's last call caddis, Henryville, Brook's headlight, elk hair caddis (brown, tan, olive), Cutter's E/C, Overly's spotlight (tan, olive), Hemingway, Goddard caddis, hot butt peacock caddis, peacock caddis, Lawson's E-Z caddis, Blue ribbon X2 caddis, Fox's crowning poopah olv/cinn, Kyle's better foam caddis (#12-20). <b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Expect crowds at the PH#2 riffle on weekends. To escape the crowds, try fishing below Carbon Flat or the Hwy 299 bridge. NCDAG pg 48.
<b>Hot Creek</b>	Slight tint to clear, mid 50s F, moderate flow (58 cfs).	<b>Fishing is good to very good.</b> Fish are rising to midges in the morning, PMD's midday and caddis and yellow sallies in the afternoon. For best results, fish a variety of dries with a small nymph dropper. Also try drifting a grasshopper or ant pattern tight to the banks. In the afternoon, fish a small caddis pupa under a hi-vis dry. As the caddis start to hatch, switch to a caddis emerger. Hot fly: they can't resist a small E/C caddis. The size and numbers of trout caught have been good this week.	<b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> Hogan's S&M nymph, Hogan's better baetis, berry nymph in gooseberry, Burk's crystal hunchback, Hogan's olive military may, Mercer's BWO trigger nymph, Kyle's beerhead baetis, tailwater tiny, flashy pheasant tail, Sloan's mighty may, Burk's olive hunchback two-tone, Mercer's micro mayfly, tung split case BWO (#16-22). <b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Midge pupa</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure on weekends. Access at upper parking lot and fish downstream to the hot springs. NCDAG pg 112.
<b>Little Truckee</b>	Clear. Low to mid 50's. Low flow (86 cfs)	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Flows have come up slightly making fish a little less spooky. Stealth and light tippet are still essential to catch the bigger trout. In the morning, drift a PMD nymph with a midge dropper under a small indicator. Drift the deep slots and pocket water to find fish. Some trout are working the PMD dries mid-morning. A few green drakes are around, especially on cloudy days. Park above Boca Reservoir and hike through the meadow upstream. Some nice 16-20 inch trout were caught last week.	<b>BWO/Baetis emerger/dries</b> Brook's KD dun, Mercers emerging poxyback bwo, fluttering mayfly cripple BWO, Harrop captive dun, BWO extended body, Brooks CDC dun baetis, hackle stacker BWO, loopwing paradun, olive hatch master, parachute BWO, twilight baetis dun day-glo, BWO CDC transitional dun, Brook's sprout baetis, quill body baetis cripple, Harrop's CDC BWO emerger, Quigley's loopy cripple stacker, Burk's silhouette dun (#16-20). <b>Midge pupa</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>PMD emergers /cripples/ dries</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect heavy fishing pressure, especially on weekends. NCDAG 81.
<b>McCloud River</b> (below McCloud Reservoir)	Clear to green, low 50's, low flow (462 cfs at Shasta Lake)	<b>Fishing is good.</b> Flows have come down making fish eager to feed and wading easier. Start the day indicator nymphing a golden stone with a small black mayfly nymph dropper. Move around midday to find fish rising to PMD's. Also try some terrestrials near the grassy banks. Best dry fly action is in the evening with fish rising to caddis starting around 5pm and stoneflies at dusk. Best fishing is from Ah-di-Na downstream to the Conservancy. Fishing pressure is heavy, especially on weekends.	<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. <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> jumbo john, Morrish cone stone, Morrish WMD, Mercer's raghead, Poxystack golden stone nymph, Mercer's poxyquill golden stone, beadhead twenty incher, copper back, Burglar stone golden, tungsten rag stone golden, speculator stone, tungsten golden stone (#8-12). <b>BWO nymphs, Pale morning dun nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Caddis pupa/ emergers</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>PMD emergers /cripples/ dries</b> (listed elsewhere).	Moderate to heavy fishing pressure on the weekends. Access below McCloud Reservoir. NCDAG 36.
<b>Pit River #3,#4, #5</b> (below Lake Britton to Big Bend)	Green tint, low 50s F, good flow on Pit #3.	<b>Fishing is good to excellent.</b> Best fishing is 9-1pm and 5pm to dusk with fish feeding on stones, PMD's and caddis. Start the morning nymphing with a rubberleg stone and a attractor beadhead nymph dropper. Concentrate on the fast runs and pocket water. When the sun is gets off the water trout will eagerly come up for caddis and golden stone dries. Good reports of big fish on Pit #4 and 5, and good numbers on Pit #3. Traffic will be closed over Pit #3 dam from July 6-Dec 1. The road will be closed at Pit 4 dam, so if you want to fish the Pit 4 or 5 reach access from Big Bend. Also, work will be done on the road from Pit 3 to 4. One lane will remain open.	<b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> Harrop last chance PMD cripple, PMD CDC transitional dun, Harrop PMD captive dun, 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>Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Light fishing pressure. Access below Lake Britton or from Big Bend. Studded boots and a wading staff are a must for fishing the Pit. NCDAG pg 47. New CDAG pg. 34.

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<b>Sacramento River, Lower</b> (below Keswick Reservoir)	Off color, low to mid 50s, low flow (12,366 cfs).	<b>Fishing is fair.</b> Best fishing is from 4pm to dusk with rainbows feeding on caddis and smaller yellow stones from Posse grounds to Anderson. In the morning, look for salmon redds. Drift an egg pattern through redds to pick up rainbows eating eggs behind redds. Midday, switch to a beadhead nymph with a caddis pupa dropper. Fishing from a boat with a longer leader and heavy split shot to get the flies down. Concentrate on inside bends where there is less current and a concentration of fish. Some dry fly action in the evening in isolated spots. Use a E/C caddis with a downstream drift. Lower sections below Anderson are not as productive.	<b>Caddis pupa/emergers</b> Mercer's tungsten swing caddis, Lawson's caddis emerger (tan, olive), Hogan's Yuba pupa, Hogan's swingin' caddis, green bean, translucent pupa, Amber wing caddis, pulsating caddis (tan, olive), 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, Hogan's good & plenty nymph (tan, olive). <b>Egg patterns for salmon</b> 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>Attractor beadhead nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report). <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere in report).	Drift boat fishing is provides best access. Wading is difficult at the high summer flows. NCDAG pg 46, 57. New CDAG pg. 41
<b>Sacramento River, Upper</b> (Lake Siskiyou to Lake Shasta)	Slight tint, mid 50's. Moderate flow (423 at Delta).	<b>Fishing is good to very good.</b> Flows are down and fish are feeding. Best fishing is from 10am to 1pm and 4pm to dusk with fish feeding on PMD's, caddis and stonefly dries at dusk. Drift a stimulator or attractor dry with a beadhead red copper john dropper in pocket water and runs. Indicator nymphing with lots of weight in the deeper runs is pulling in some trout from over 18 inches when fish are not rising. The evening dry fly fishing is very good with fish rising to golden stones, PMD's and caddis. Good access along interstate 5 at Sims, Dunsmuir, and Sweetbrier.	<b>PMD emergers/cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Pale morning dun nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Caddis pupa/ emergers</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Caddis cripples/dries</b> (listed elsewhere), <b>Golden stonefly nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure, even with higher flows. Be careful when wading. NCDAG 36, 46.
<b>Truckee River</b> (Trout Creek to CA Stateline)	Slight Tint, low to mid 50's. Low to moderate flow (150 cfs near Truckee).	<b>Fishing is good.</b> Flows are down, hatches are coming out and fish are feeding. Highstick nymphing in the morning with a beadhead nymph and smaller mayfly dropper will hook fish in the riffles. Midday when temperatures rise, switch to a PMD dry. There is a slow time from 2-4pm. This is a good time to strip streamers in deep pools or strip crayfish patterns along the rocky bank. Yellow stones and caddis are out in the evening, with trout working the surface from 6pm to dark. Best fishing is above Boca where flows are fishable.	<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</b> (listed elsewhere) <b>River woolly buggers/streamers</b> (listed elsewhere) <b>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>BWO/Baetis emerger/dries</b> (listed elsewhere)	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Access along Glenshire Rd down through Hirshdale. NCDAG 81.
<b>Yuba River, Lower</b> (from Englebright dam to Marysville)	Clear, low 50s, moderate flow, 1760 cfs below Englebright dam.	<b>Fishing is good.</b> Best fishing is from 8am to noon and 5pm to dusk with fish rising to caddis in the morning and afternoon, PMD's midday and smaller stoneflies and caddis at dusk. Trout working the surface are very smart and need a very good drift with the right emerger. Change flies often. Indicator nymphing with a rubberleg stone and smaller caddis pupa dropper is hooking fish in riffles and runs. Fish are large and fight hard. Expect quality over quantity. Access above and below the Hwy 20 Bridge. Wading is possible at these flows, but gets very tough above 2000 cfs.	<b>PMD emergers/cripples /dries</b> Harrop last chance PMD cripple, PMD CDC transitional dun, Harrop PMD captive dun, 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>BWO/Baetis nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Pale morning dun nymphs</b> (listed elsewhere). <b>Caddis pupa/emergers</b> (listed elsewhere).	Water above Hwy 20 bridge is open until August 31 <sup>st</sup> . Access at the Hwy 20 bridge and Sycamore Ranch campground. NCDAG pg 78,79.
<b>Small Stream Clinic-</b> Great clinic for a beginning or novice angler. The streams surrounding Chico are full of hungry and willing trout. Dry fly fishing on these streams is very good. Topics covered include rigging, "reading" water, and techniques to fish both nymphs and dry flies. Most important, students will have plenty of practice learning how to hook, fight, and land trout. Exact stream location will depend on current water conditions. Clinic is limited to 3 students. July 5,11,18 August 8,22,29 September 19. Cost is \$175 per person for a full day on the water.				
<b>Shad Report Sacramento River-</b> Shad are scattered from Princeton to Red Bluff with the bulk of the run moving back down stream. Cover lots of water with a 200 grain shooting head on a 6 wt. rod with Rio's slick shooter running line. Numbers are low but still reports of some good sized females caught in the last week. <b>American River-</b> Flows are higher making wading a little more difficult. Shad are scattered from Sailor bar down. <b>Yuba River-</b> Shad are below Daguerre dam. Reports are scattered with some anglers getting into them good and some anglers only finding a few fish. Access at Hallwood Ave. <b>Feather River-</b> Shad are scattered below Shanghai bend. Shad run is just about done on the Feather.				

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**Other Reports** **Lake Almanor** Hex hatch is picking up around Prattville and near the dam on the west side of the lake. Start the day around 4pm fishing a hex nymph on a fast sinking line. Vary your retrieve or troll with lots of turns slowing and speeding up the fly. At 5pm bring the nymph up in the water column. Switch to a floating line with a longer 3X leader around 6pm. Casting and stripping the fly back can get some aggressive grabs. When hex flies are thick switch to an emerger or dun and cast to rising or cruising fish. Reports are day to day. Good numbers of large fish caught in the last week. **Baum Lake** is fishing best from 10am to dusk with fish feeding on smaller midges in the morning and callibaetis in the afternoon on warmer days. Overcast days are slowing the dry fly action. Stripping streamers around weed beds will find feeding fish. **Butt Lake** is fishing very well from 4pm to dark with rainbows, browns and bass feeding on Hexagenia nymphs and dries. Start with tandem hex nymphs on a sinking line around the dam from 3-5pm. When hex start hatching, switch to a floating line with a hex nymph on a longer 3X leader. Use an erratic retrieve to bring nymphs through the water column. When fish are steadily rising switch to a hex dry on a 3X leader. Reports of large rainbows and browns caught in the last week. The hatch is varying in duration and size day to day. **Feather River** (Hwy 70 bridge to Gridley) Flushing flows have pushed steelhead out of the riffles. Look for more steelhead moving into the river system in late July to October. **Feather River, MF** Flows are coming down and hatches are picking up. Hatches of midges and mayflies in the morning, caddis in the afternoon and stoneflies in the evening. Better hatches on sunny days. Thunderstorms will put down hatches of caddis and stoneflies down. Fishing sub-surface with a rubberleg stone and smaller mayfly nymph will hook fish around boulders and in tailouts below riffles. **Putah Creek** (below Lake Berryessa) High summer flows making for tough wading. Best fishing is early and late in the day with small mayfly nymphs and caddis pupa. Small 4-8 inch trout are rising to dries in the evening to caddis. **Butte Creek** (Butte Meadows) Best fishing is at dusk when rainbows are feeding on stoneflies and caddis. Some fish around Cherry Hill campground but the bigger fish are in the canyon section where access is difficult. **Lower Stanislaus River** (below Tulloch Reservoir) High flows (1249 cfs at Orange Blossom). **Trinity River** (Fly only water below Lewiston) Flows are currently 700 cfs. Flows are decreasing and will stabilize at 450 cfs on July 6th. **Yuba River, NF** (near Downieville) Best fishing is from Sierra City to Downieville with fishable flows and trout rising to smaller mayflies in the morning, caddis in the afternoon and stoneflies in the evening before dusk. Fish are smaller but plentiful. A 3 weight rod will get a good bend from scrappy rainbows and browns. **Walker River, East Fork** (below Bridgeport Reservoir) Flows are on the rise (237 cfs). Consistent flows will put fish back on the bite. Good hatches of mayflies and caddis with fish feeding aggressively mid-morning and again from 4pm to dusk. Stripping streamers will hook some big browns. Fish larger streamers and strip them back from the bank. 2X tippet is a must for streamers.

**WH&WN™ FREE flyfishing report would not be possible without the help of:** Craig Nielsen/Shasta Trout Guide Service, Victor Babbit/Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters/Tahoe, Jerry/The Troutfitter/Mammoth Lakes, Ted Fay Flyshop/Dunsmuir, Greg/Sweeny's sport shop, Frank Rinella/Nevada City Anglers/Nevada City, Reno Fly Shop/Reno, Andy/Kiene's Fly Shop/Sacramento, Angler Edge fly shop, Janet & Steve/Vaughn's Sporting Goods/Burney, Val & Randy Aubrey ([www.eaglelakefishing.info](http://www.eaglelakefishing.info)), Richard Hardy-Davis report, Gary McFarland, JT, Mark Harris & Richie. 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.