

What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First* ! – updated 30 August 2015

WH&WN™ is provided courtesy of <i>Fish First</i>! Visit our retail stores at 1404 Solano Ave, Albany (Bay Area) 510-526-1937 and 766 Mangrove Ave, Chico (Central Valley) 530-343-8300. Access to our Albany store is easy from Interstate 80; access to our Chico store is easy from Hwy 32 off Interstate 5. Albany store hours 10am-6:30pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sat-Sun. Chico store hours: 9:30am-6pm M-Sat, 11am-4pm Sun.				
Facebook Check out current updates on our Fish First page on Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fish-First-Fly-Shop/179070695489335				
To receive this report via email , visit our website http://www.fishfirst.com and follow the link to "Subscribe WH&WN™" under "Fishing Report". Email any questions or comments to info@fishfirst.com .				
NCDGA page numbers: 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
Lake Almanor	Clear, high 60's, lake level is good.	Fishing is good to excellent. Best fishing is early morning for browns, followed by the rainbow bite at mouth of Hamilton Branch and other tributaries. Nymphing midges, attractor nymphs and egg patterns from the bank with an indicator and a floating line. Hot fly- #18 anato may. Stripping buggers or pond smelt is best done by boat with a type 3 sinking line. Surface action is with small adams or cream sprout midge on a floating line mid morning. One of the better places to fish in the heat of the summer.	Lake woolly buggers/streamers 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), Milt's floating pond smelt (#4-8). Attractor beadhead nymphs 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).	Float tube is needed for best access. Fishing pressure during the week is light with some pressure on the weekends at Hamilton Branch. CDAG pg 43. Road work on highway 32. Check Cal Trans for conditions.
Baum Lake	Clear, mid 40s, lake level is normal.	Fishing is fair to good. Best fishing is early with midges and BWO. Anchor in a float tube or pontoon boat off the main current and drift small beadhead midge and caddis pupa through the current either under an indicator or on a 10' leader with a slow swing in the current with a floating line. As the hatch progresses, switch to a midge pupa under a caddis or attractor dry. Best reports for big fish are from anglers stripping crystal buggers (hot fly is a #6 olive crystal bugger) along the weed beds and the edges of the main current. Look for hatches of callibaetis and caddis as temps rise and insects get active in the afternoon.	Attractor dries irresistible adams, parachute light cahill, Rio Grande trude, parachute adams, paralyzer, royal coachman, crystal stimulator, renegade, royal wulff, para wulff, (#10-18). BWO/Baetis nymphs 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, tung split case BWO (#16-22). BWO/Baetis emerger/dries. Lake woolly buggers/streamers 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). Midge pupa (Listed elsewhere in report).	Light fishing pressure. A float tube or pram is best. NCDAG pg 48
Deer Creek (Along Highway 32)	Slight tint, low to mid 60's F, low flow.	Fishing is fair. Fishing is best at early morning and evening when trout are rising to midges and small mayflies in riffles and pocket water. Nymphing midges and attractor nymphs in the deeper, cooler pools/pockets during the heat of the day. Elam and Alder camps have good numbers of stocked fish and report good fishing. Wild trout below Deer Creek Falls have been more selective. Smaller flies and good presentation with 6X tippet will trick the wild fish. Great place to take beginners and use a 1-3 wt lightweight rod.	Attractor dries irresistible adams, parachute light cahill, Rio Grande trude, parachute adams, paralyzer, royal coachman, crystal stimulator, renegade, royal wulff, para wulff, (#10-18). PMD emergers/cripples/dries 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). Caddis pupa/emergers and d Attractor beadhead nymphs (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.
Fall River (Cal Trout access to Spring Creek Rd)	Slight tint, normal Summer flow.	Fishing is fair to good. Trout are rising to tricos around 9am. Hatches vary depending on your location. Best trico spinnerfall is above Spring Creek Bridge. Also try small midge and mayfly nymphs fished below an indicator along the flats. Look for trout rising to callibaetis in the afternoon. Trout concentrate on small areas with good insect activity. In the evening, swing caddis emergers and soft hackles on an intermediate line. Streamers fished on a sink tip are also producing on bends of the river. Weeds are thick but cool water is keeping the insects and trout active. Fishing will continue to improve as fall approaches.	Callibaetis dries 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). Caddis cripples/dries and Midge pupa glass bead midge (red, black), crystal dip, disco midge, brassie, desert storm, zebra midge (rust, black), WD40 (olive, chocolate), skinny nelson, crystal HBI (#18-22). PMD emergers/cripples/dries and Lake woolly buggers/streamers (listed elsewhere). BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure on weekends. Pram with electric motor needed. Public access is at Cal Trout. NCDAG pg 38. CDAG pg 35.

What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First* ! – updated 30 August 2015

Fishery	Water Conditions	Fishing Conditions, Techniques, and Hatches	Flies	Comments
Feather River (Hwy 70 Bridge to Gridley)	Clear, low 50s F, good flow in low flow (960 cfs), high flow below the Afterbay (1520 cfs) at Gridley.	Fishing is fair. Reports of some holdover spring run steelhead and a few early fall run. Not a lot of fish in the system yet, but worth a morning or evening of fishing. Salmon are in pools and deep runs. Closed to fishing for salmon in the low flow, but swinging flies on a spey rod or single hand 9 or 10 wt with a sink tip has a good chance of finding salmon in runs and tailouts in the high flow. Look for pinch points in the river where salmon will stack up. Swing bright colored wet flies on a Skagit with a fast T-14 tip. Fishing will continue to improve as more fish move through the system. Prime time is October to Thanksgiving when salmon are dropping eggs and every steelie is eating them.	Steelhead wet flies/streamers 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). Caddis pupa/emergers Fox's poopah (olive, tan), Hot wire caddis, Anderson's peeking green, 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). Salmon sac-fry (Alevin) patterns and BWO/Baetis nymphs and Attractor beadhead nymphs (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.
Feather River, N.F. (Cresta powerhouse to Lake Oroville)	Slight tint, mid 50s to mid 60's F, 249 cfs @ Rock Creek Dam, 109 @ Poe Powerhouse.	Fishing is good. Flows are good and fish eating stoneflies and caddis in fast, oxygenated water. Best reports are from Rock Creek powerhouse up stream to Beldon where water temps are cooler. High stick nymph through pocket water with a golden stone and caddis pupa dropper. Be sure to use plenty of split shot to get flies down. Good reports of rainbows 15-20 inches. Some dry fly action on caddis just before dark but not very consistent. Great time of the year to strip streamers in pool and bends of the river.	Attractor beadhead nymphs royal flush, Hogan's Steelie 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). Golden stonefly nymphs (listed elsewhere in report). Midge pupa (Listed elsewhere in report).	Expect light fishing pressure. Access below Cresta Powerhouse and along Hwy 70. Only open in Butte County in off season. NCDAG pg 59. CDAG pg 51.
Frank's Tract & San Joaquin Delta (including Mildred, San Joaquin River, and nearby sloughs)	Clear to off color, 2-6 ft visibility, high 60s to low 70s F.	Fishing is poor, but improving. Lots of small 6-12 inch stripers around and a few 3-6 lb fish. Water temps are still high, keeping the stripers in the Bay. A few reports of double digit fish in the Antioch and Pittsburg area, but wind has been a problem. Best times are early and late in the day with a moving tide. Lots of bait around so bring a floating line, medium sink, and T-14 in your arsenal. Look for birds and calm weather, topwater action is possible. Small to medium chartreuse clousers with a fast erratic strip is the ticket.	Striper patterns 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.
Hot Creek	Clear, low to mid 60s F, low flow (10 cfs).	Fishing is fair. The trico spinnerfall starts around 9am bringing trout to the surface. Midday, switch to ants, hoppers and beetles fished along the edges and over the weeds where trout will hold. Grasshoppers have been productive along the edges during the heat of the day when nothing else is hatching. Cover water to find eager trout. Some caddis hatching in the evening. Heavy weed growth makes finding slots to fish tough. Afternoon wind can be a problem	BWO/Baetis emerger/dries 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). Caddis cripples/dries (Listed elsewhere in report). Tricos double wing trico, triple wing trico.	Moderate fishing pressure on weekends. Access at upper parking lot and fish to the hot springs. NCDAG pg 112.
Klamath River (mouth to Orleans)	Clear, high 60s, good flow (1330 cfs at Orleans).	Fishing is good. Reports are improving with fresh salmon and steelhead moving up the river with pulse flows. Best fishing is in the morning and evening when the sun is off the water. Fish a wet fly swing with a herniator or silver hilton on a long 2x leader with a floating line. When the sun is on the water use a sink tip line to get the fly down in deeper runs. Look for fish holding where cooler tributaries such as Blue Creek enter the mainstem of the Klamath. The steelhead are starting to move upriver, with good reports from Orleans and Somes Bar areas.	Steelhead wet flies/streamers 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).	Expect heavy fishing pressure in the lower part of the river. Access at Orleans and Somes Bar along hwy 96. NCDAG 33, 34. New CDAG pg. 30, 31

What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First* ! – updated 30 August 2015

Fishery	Water Conditions	Fishing Conditions, Techniques, and Hatches	Flies	Comments
Pit River #3,#4, #5 (below Lake Britton to Big Bend)	Green to brown tint, 60- 66 degrees F on Pit 3, 330 cfs on Pit #3 somewhat high, 427 cfs on Pit #4 with water temps at 64-70 degrees and 387 cfs on Pit #5.	Fishing is good. Pit 3 is fishing best from dawn to noon and again from 4pm to dark. Nymph the pocket water with black AP's, tan birdsnest and tan caddis pupa. Keep moving to find the willing eaters. Best results are coming from anglers nymphing with a big rubberleg stone and dark beadhead nymph dropper under an indicator in fast, oxygenated water midday. Few reports of Isonychia, but it should be on its way, especially on Pit 4 reach. Hogan's Isonychia nymph with a larger soft hackle is deadly combination. Fish with a swing at the end of your drift. The road may be closed 2 miles below Lake Britton due to construction. It is scheduled to open by mid Sept. That means you may need to access from Big Bend.	River woolly buggers/streamers 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), bunny leech (white), chub minnow (#6-12). Golden stonefly nymphs jumbo john, Morrish cone stone, Morrish WMD, Mercer's raghead, Poxyback golden stone nymph, Mercer's poxyquill golden stone, micro cable stone, beadhead twenty incher, copper back, Pat's Rubberleg. Caddis pupa/emergers and Attractor beadhead nymphs and Golden stonefly dries and Little yellow stone dries (listed elsewhere).	Low fishing pressure on 3, no pressure on 4. Access below Lake Britton or from Big Bend. Studded boots and a wading staff are a must for fishing the Pit. New flow regiment makes wading very tough. NCDAG pg 47. New CDAG pg. 34.
Sacramento River, Lower (below Keswick Reservoir to Butte City)	Green tint, mid 50s, moderate normal flow 7,200 cfs.	Fishing is fair. Hatches are sparse but nymphing remains good. Fish the edges and seams and you will find trout suspending stoneflies, caddis pupa and PMD nymphs. From a drift boat, tandem flies under an indicator in 4-6 feet of water is the most productive method at these flows. Hot flies: Birds nest, Rubber legged stones, and PMD nymphs. Best dry fly fishing with caddis is just before dark when the sun is off the water and the trout are feeding in riffles. Stripers are actively feeding on pike minnow on weed beds and around structure. Chartreuse and white clousers and whistlers stripped in 3-6 feet of water will find stripers. Best fishing is around Chico.	Caddis cripples/dries 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, Fox's crowning poopah olv/cinn, Kyle's better foam caddis (#12-20). Little yellow stonefly nymphs poxy back micro stone tungsten hotwire prince, Morrish's iron sally (#14-16). Caddis pupa/emergers and Golden stonefly nymphs and Attractor beadhead nymphs and BWO nymphs and PMD emergers/cripples/dries and Pale morning dun nymphs (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
Sacramento River, Upper (Lake Siskiyou to Lake Shasta)	Slight tint, high 50's to high 60's. Low flow (175 at Delta).	Fishing is fair. Best fishing is early in the morning in the lower stretches near Gibson, Simms and Sweetbriar. Look for midge and mayfly hatches. Midday, move up river where water temps are cooler. Fishing Mott and City Park in Dunsmuir good bets with fish taking caddis and beadhead nymphs under an indicator. Not much action on dries but nymphing is producing some bigger trout in oxygenated water. Bring a thermometer. If water temps are above 66 degrees, find cooler water.	Pale morning dun nymphs Hogan's military may (brown), Beadhead flash back pheasant tails, Morrish pick pocket, Mercer's micro mayfly (brown), Black AP nymph, dark lord, Burk's crystal HBI, flashy PT (#14-18). PMD emergers /cripples/ dries Harrop last chance PMD cripple, 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). Caddis pupa/emergers and Attractor beadhead nymphs and Attractor dries and Midge pupa (listed elsewhere).	Expect heavy fishing pressure. Be careful when wading. NCDAG 36, 46. New CDAG pg. 33
Yuba River, Lower (from Englebright dam to Marysville)	Clear, mid 50s F, low flow, 632 cfs below Englebright.	Fishing is fair. Low flows are low making trout scatter. Concentrate on deep slots, pools, drop-offs and riffles where trout will feed on midges stonefly nymphs and the remaining caddis. Some salmon in the system but no reports of salmon on redds. Eggs are still a good option in the morning fished behind salmon. Best action is with dark stonefly nymphs and a midge dropper. Best hatches are above Hammond Grove right before dark.	PMD emergers/cripples/dries 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). Golden stonefly nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor beadhead nymphs and BWO/Baetis nymphs and Midge pupa and BWO/Baetis emerger/dries (listed elsewhere).	Water above Hwy 20 bridge is open from December 1 st through August 31 st . Access at the Hwy 20 bridge and Sycamore Ranch campground. NCDAG pg 78,79.
Yuba River, North Fork (between Downieville and Sierra City)	Clear, mid to high 60's, low flow 73 cfs at Goodyears Bar.	Fishing is fair to good. Cool evening temps are getting trout active longer during the day. Matching the hatch is not as important that a good dead drift with an attractor dry with a small beadhead dropper. This is great 3 weight rod water with plenty of 6-10 inch trout. Better action around Sierra City when on hot days.	Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor dries (listed elsewhere in the report). Golden stonefly nymphs and Golden stonefly dries (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/emergers (listed elsewhere).	Light fishing pressure. Access off of Hwy 49. NCDAG pg 70.
Other Reports Trinity River (near Lewiston) Flows are on the rise to cool down the Klamath and bring salmon and steelhead up. Trout fishing has been good when flows come back down to 450 cfs. Attractor dries with a beadhead nymph dropper will find trout. McCloud River (below McCloud Reservoir) Water is a little off color but not muddy. Hatches are sparse and reports are fair. Nymphing around Ash camp is producing best numbers with stoneflies and caddis pupas but trout can be coerced to rise with stimulators and caddis along the edges.				

What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First* ! – updated 30 August 2015

Largemouth Bass Fishing Nothing like chugging a bass popper along the bank for a massive bass blow-up! Valley and foothill bass ponds are in prime shape with temps between 60 to 70 degrees. **Thermalito Afterbay** is located off highway 99 south of Chico. Thermalito is diverted water from the Feather River to warm water for rice farmers. This shallow water fishery has largemouth bass, big carp and hatchery steelhead. Cover the edges early morning with a bass popper (hot fly: Umpqua swimming frog). Best locations are around heavy cover. Best bass poppers have a weed guard to get through heavy cover without snagging. Midday, switch to a crayfish or baitfish pattern (good choice: clouser) on short sink tip with a heavy leader. Good reports from anglers fishing channels between islands and deep water (4-10') around ambush points and rock walls. **Frank's Tract & San Joaquin Delta** (including Mildred, San Joaquin River, and nearby sloughs) Early and late are ideal times to fish topwater poppers and divers around rock walls, heavy cover and up against tullies. Midday, clousers and crayfish patterns on a sink tip will produce. 8- 9 wt rods and are ideal to turn over big flies and fight fish.

WH&WN™ FREE flyfishing report would not be possible without the help of: Jon Baiocchi/Baiocchi Troutfitters, Tom/Lake Almanor Fly Fishing Co., Craig Nielsen/Shasta Trout Guide Service, Jordan Romney (Putah Fly Fishing Guide), Victor Babbit/Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters/Tahoe, Jerry/The Troutfitter/Mammoth Lakes, Ted Fay Flyshop/Dunsmuir, Greg/Sweeny's sport shop, Mike-American 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.