

# FLY DOPE



Fresno, CA  
Founded 1961  
www.fresnoflyfishers.org

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**Special Points of Interest:**

*September  
28*

**Tracy Purpuro  
KRCDC**

**Fly Casting 6 PM**

**Mtg. 7 PM**

*October*

**Fresno County  
Fair 4th—15th**

**Team USA Trials**

*November*

*11*

**Fly Tying Expo**

## Thursday, September 28 6 PM Casting & Fly Tying 7 PM Tracy Purpuro

Tracy Purpuro, Biologist from Kings River Conservation District will be speaking to our membership September 28. Tracy manages the Trout Tracking and Telemetry Study for KRCDC. Tracy is an avid fly fisher, so plan on hearing about the fishery and the interventions already performed as well as planned from someone who 'gets it' from our perspective. Tracy was sick for our last meeting but has agreed to come for September.

See ya there!!

### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**Fred Ramirez**

Lets have some fun! If someone can guess what this is. (Below in the photo.) First one to E-mail me with the correct answer I will give them a dozen of Jay Fair wiggle tails, at this months meeting. Excluding all past and present board members because, they might know what it is. Hint more Fish. I will talk more about it at this months meeting.

Other news, we were asked by US. Sportsmen Alliance if we could give them a hand with this years Youth Education class. It will take place at Mc Connell State Park in Merced Ca. Date Oct 14, 2006 from 8 to 4 PM. We will teach them about basic knots and teach them how to cast. Then we will let them try their luck at catching some fish. I will need about 5 or 6 people to help out.



Please call me if you can help.

Some important events to remember for 2006:  
Fresno Fair. Oct 4 to 15 Please call Mits if you can tie.  
Team USA Trials: the last weekend October  
Fly Tying Expo at the Fresno Sportsman's Club: November 11  
Tell all your friends about it and come out and learn something new.

## Water Quality and The Kings River

David Cehrs

This article reprinted by permission of El Rio De Los Reyes Conservation Trust.

The Kings River is a major source of high quality, unpolluted, fresh water to the San Joaquin Valley. It is quite obvious to most of us but this is one feature of the river that is overlooked when trying to justify the preservation of rivers.

The San Joaquin Valley uses immense amounts of water annually. The vast majority of it is used by irrigated agriculture but an ever increasing demand is coming from expanding urban and suburban populations. The source of the consumed and utilized water is either surface water (rivers and canals) or groundwater. Since World War II we as an economic society in the valley have been using more water than nature gives us on a long term bases, which is unsustainable. This is displayed by two facts: in most years the rivers of the valley never debouch to their natural discharges (for the Kings River this is the Tulare Lake) and our ground water table is declining.

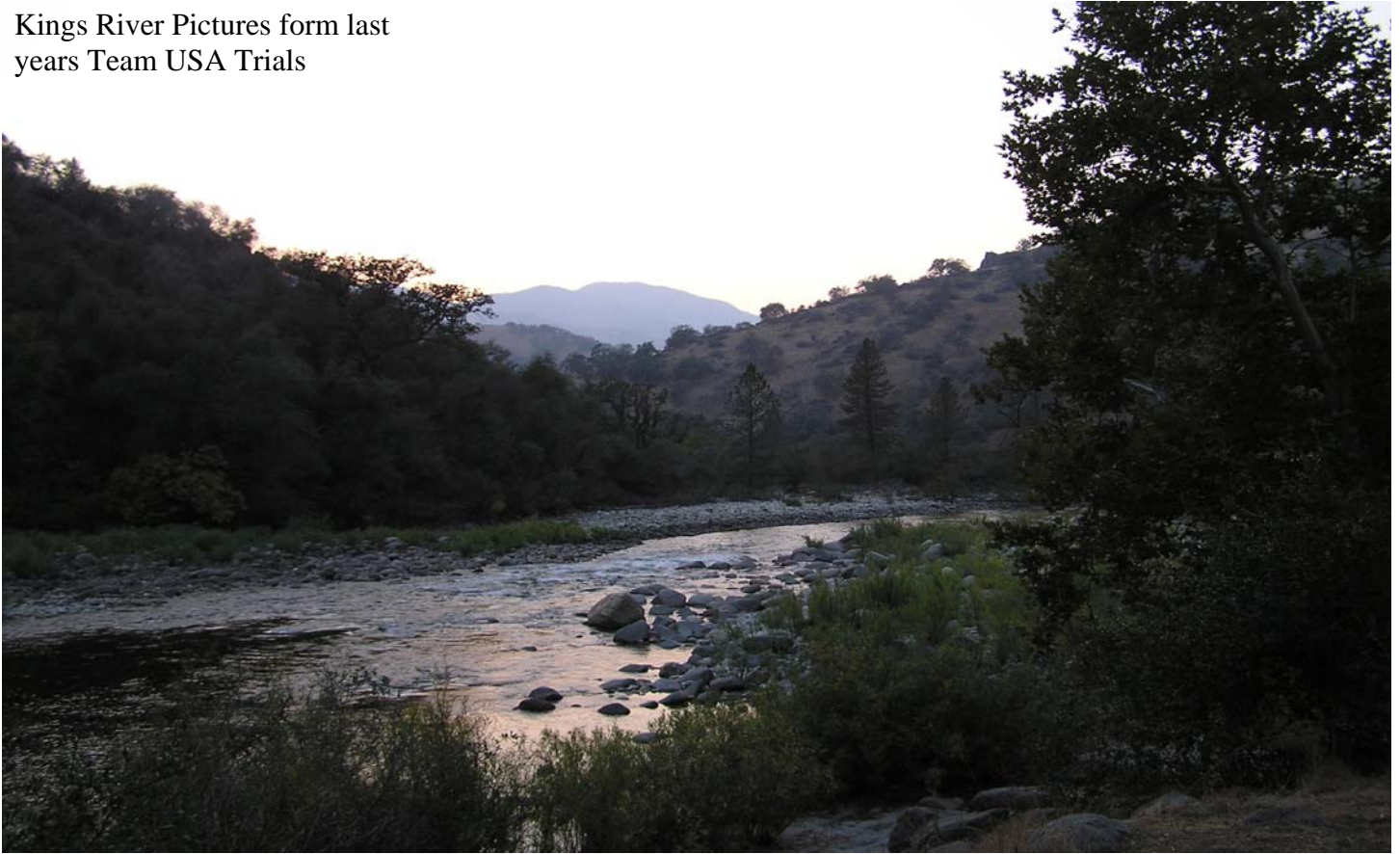
But we are loosing water another way: through pollution. Polluted water may range from contaminated and toxic, and thus non-potable, to slightly contaminated, non-toxic and seem potable in the short term. The pollution may arise from anthropogenic pollution such as agricultural chemicals (pesticides, herbicides) leaching into groundwater or from urban/industrial uses such as leaking gas station tanks and pharmaceuticals flushed down drains and toilets of our households. This polluted water decreases our supply of freshwater in the valley as effectively as a drought would but more insidiously. In either case the water is no longer fresh, healthy water to animals or plants. Polluted water requires energy of some form to remove the pollutants or break them down to non-harmful by-products; this can be expensive and slow. Pollutants can be physically removed by filtration and air stripping, they can be chemically altered by reaction with oxidants, or they can be broken down by bacteria.

Another major source of pollution directly tied to water is soil salinity. Irrigated agriculture world wide and throughout history has problems with increasing soil salinities. This occurs as water is applied to the plants. This applied water has very small amounts of dissolved minerals in it; these minerals are acquired by the water as it moves through soils to streams and rivers. If the applied water is much greater than evapotranspiration (ET) requirements of the plant then the excess water percolates down to the water table. If the applied water is very near the ET requirements of the plant then the unused water tends to remain in the upper soil column where it eventually evaporates leaving the mineral residue in the soil. Over time through many seasons, this mineral content will build in the soil. Ultimately, the salt portion of this mineral buildup will exceed the growing tolerance of the plants and the soil will become sterile and infertile. The only way to prevent this salt build up is to continuously or periodically "flush" the salts out of the soil with excess, low salt, fresh water and move the minerals down to the water table. There are some very famous locals that have lost their fertility due to soil salinity the fertile crescent (no longer) between the Tigris and Euphrates River (The Garden of Eden), and currently the Nile Delta is becoming saline because of the loss of the Nile floods below the Aswan High Dam.

So how does the Kings River factor into this discussion? The Kings is a major source of large volumes of clean, fresh water to the valley. This river water needs to be protected from man derived pollution including both municipal and agricultural derived pollutants. As such we need to prevent direct discharges into the river from subsurface flows, ranging from septic tanks and sewer treatment facilities to agricultural percolation. Because of this it would behoove those residing within the Kings River basin to protect this valuable, fresh water resource. One very good way to do this is to acquire riparian habitat land, agriculture land and undeveloped land, through either purchases or easements, along the length of the river. If the banks were left natural or unused for some distance from the river bank this would allow attenuation of any pollutants before they entered the river and the preservation of high water quality of the river for all users. So, there are both environmental and socio-economic arguments for the preservation of the riparian corridor along the Kings River.

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Kings River Pictures form last years Team USA Trials



## Fly's From Jerry's Bench

Jerry Hopewell

Kings River Caddis

Dry Fly Hook #12 to #16

Thread Black 8/0

Dubbing Raccoon under fur ( brownish grey )

Wing Turkey wing feather treated with Dave's flex-cement

Hackle Brown sized to hook



Start the thread at the middle of hook and make thread base.

Dub a tapered body. Your thread should be at the middle of the hook.

Tie the turkey wing feather slip making sure it extends a body length past the body.

Trim the turkey wing feather as shown in picture.

Tie in the hackle dull side forward.

Wrap the thread to the head of the fly, making a thread base , leaving room to finish the fly.

Wrap the hackle forward filling up the space between body and head.

Secure the hackle and make a small neat head. Make 2 whip finishes and go fishing.





Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation  
The First Annual  
Central Valley  
Fly Tying Expo  
Nov. 11, 2006  
Time 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M

Sportman's Club  
10645 N. Lanes Rd  
Fresno, CA

Adults \$5.00  
Children 15 & Under Free

For More Information & Registration Contact

[www.fresnoflyfisher.org](http://www.fresnoflyfisher.org)

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## California Quail Unlimited Chapters Hold Their 10th Annual COVEY KIDS CAMP

Quail Unlimited held their 10th annual COVEY (Conserving Outdoor Values by Educating Youth) camp at Ecker Ranch in Coarsegold last week

The camp teaches children, 11-15 years old, sportsmanship in a wildlife habitat. President of Quail Unlimited, Fresno Chapter Jeff Kimura, J.B. Overstreet of the Tri-Lake Hunting and Fishing Club, Dwayne Blankenship, Quail Unlimited Santa Clarita Chapter and Dick Haldeman, Western Regional Director of Quail Unlimited, joined together to run the camp.

"Everybody's enjoyed the old ranch," Overstreet said. "It's like any summer camp, but it's different because of the wildlife habitat." Overstreet is the owner of Ecker Ranch built in 1870. He married into the Ecker family in 1943, wedding Sylvester's granddaughter, Alice. The original house built on the ranch now serves as the club house for the campers.

Campers then sleep in tents near Jerry Lake, one of the three lakes on Ecker Ranch.



J.B. Overstreet and the COVEY campers sit on a picnic bench by Jerry Lake before learning to fly fish. This is the first year that Quail Unlimited and Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation have combined the sport of hunting and fly fishing. Photo by Kristen Hoverman

This year 14 campers and four junior counselors took part in the camp. Campers built on hunting and outdoor skills through shotgun skill clinics, hunter safety and education, tracking, fishing, map reading, hunting with dogs, game care and cooking, conservation and more. They also are taught how to build dove nests, quail nests and learn a quail call.

This is a camp for kids who have already completed the basic hunter education program and received their hunting licenses. In addition to their harvesting skills, the kids will have completed different habitat projects to increase and maintain the wildlife population.

The COVEY camp at Ecker Ranch is one of three camps sponsored by Quail Unlimited in California. The success of the camps started in California lead to the opening of camps in other states, Haldeman said. Campers must complete the introductory hunter education camps in Barstow or in Los Banos before coming to the camp in Coarsegold.

"We reinforce all safety aspects," Haldeman said. "The camp is hands on and the kids shoot every day. It's not just about 'meat hunting. We teach the kids to conserve wildlife. The program has made hunting very safe."

The cost of the five-day camp is approximately \$400 per child. Local chapters sponsor children so that they are able to attend the camp. The kids come from various areas in California. "If kids can't afford to come to camp, we will make sure they get sponsorship," Haldeman said. "Most kids up here are on a scholarship."

**Continued next page**

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Quail Unlimited held their 10th annual COVEY (Conserving Outdoor Values by Educating Youth) camp at Ecker Ranch in Coarsegold last week

Native to the Ecker Ranch property are quail, deer, duck and wild turkeys that provide an opportunity for hunting. "The only things we plant and shoot are the chukar," Overstreet said. The chukars (Eurasian partridge, game birds) are planted at Ecker Ranch and the campers use the skills they have learned to hunt the birds. "The kids learn how to work with the canine companion," Haldeman said. "They learn how to work over the dog and act as gunners to protect themselves and the dog." The campers then learn to clean and cook their own game. "We try to make it as rounded an education as possible," Haldeman said. The kids do more than hunt; they have been fishing for warm water fish: bass, blue gill, and catfish.

As a new edition to the camp, this year campers were taught how to fly fish by the Fresno Fly Fishermen for Conservation- a local fly fishing club from Fresno.

"We wanted to expand their skills through fly fishing," Haldeman said.

Dan Busby and Bob Papazian of Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation taught the campers how to cast their fly rods. Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation offers free casting lessons at Woodward Park in Fresno for four weeks every Spring to bring awareness of the sport.

"What a great idea to combine the two sports (hunting and fishing)," Papazian said. "I wish they had something like this when I was growing up. We look for opportunities like this to teach kids. Our future is with kids like this." Fresno Fly Fishers for Conservation have already considered returning to the camp next year to teach lessons to the new and returning campers.

Camper Taylor Tyler, 12, of Shaver, enjoyed her camping experience. "My dad started me out with fly fishing," she said. "They teach you better shooting, fishing, mapping and being safer with the equipment you are using. I would love to continue coming. It's a fun time to get out of the house."

Overstreet said they are trying to get Ecker Ranch protected by the California Rangeland Trust, "so kids 100 years from now will have a place to come out and see a deer. I enjoyed it when I was a boy."



Blue Gill caught at Covey Kids Program

## 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

Wishon Res. Outing (September 23)

### October

Fresno County Fair - Fly Tires Needed contact (Oct. 4 - 15) (Mits Kozuki)

Fly Fishing Team USA Trials: October 28 & 29 (Jayne Ferrante)

Cedar Grove Outing (October 14)

### November

Fly Tying Expo - Sportsman Club (Nov. 11)

San Luis Res. (Nov. 25)

## OUTINGS

Don Shuda

Don wants to remind everybody of our upcoming outings in September and October  
Wishon Res - September 23,  
Cedar Grove - October 14.

At Wishon we can meet at the boat ramp parking lot at 8:00.

At Cedar Grove we can meet at the Boyden Cave parking lot at 8:00. If anyone wants to camp we might be able to put something together.



**The best way to get to know the fishing waters around Fresno is to join Don Shuda at our Monthly Fly Fishing Outings**



# BULLETIN BOARD

***Help us out on the Lower Kings!!***

## **LOWER KINGS RIVER ANGLER SURVEY FORM**

There's a new web page in town and among its other features is an angler's survey form for fishing the lower Kings River.

The web page is <http://www.kingsriverfisheries.org>. Under the Navigation menu on the left hand side is an entry titled "Angler Survey".

Click on the item, fill in the blanks and submit. The results will be trans-

### **Our Mission:**

Fly Fishers for Conservation (FFC) was organized in 1961 by a group of devoted Fly Fishers deeply concerned with the preservation of trout and all game fish, their environment, and the quality of fishing. Our club has maintained two goals since this time:

To foster and promote the sport of angling with artificial flies

To protect, conserve, and increase our angling resources.



**THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO LIVE  
YOUR LIFE.  
ONE IS AS THOUGH NOTHING IS  
A MIRACLE.  
THE OTHER IS AS THOUGH EVERYTHING IS A MIRACLE.**

**ALBERT EINSTEIN**

## **FFFC Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fees are due February 1, each year.  
Pro-Rate: Pay for months remaining until January 30 including current month at 1/12 annual rate.  
\* Add initiation fee, \$10.  
One newsletter per household.

- Regular Membership \$36
- Senior Membership \$24 (over age 65)
- Spousal Member \$12
- Jr. Member \$6 (Under 18)
- Lifetime Member \$500
- Shoulder Patch \$5
- CSUF Scholarship Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Conservation Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check payable to FFFC.  
Mail to 100 E. Sierra, PMB 3310, Fresno, CA 93710**

Initiation fee \$ 10.00

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only: Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Check/Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Input \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**FLY DOPE**  
**FLY FISHERS FOR CONSERVATION**  
 100 E. Sierra, PMB 3310  
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Fly Fishers For Conservation

**2006  
 Slate**

**Board Officers and Committee Members**

**Meetings held at:**

Fresno Sportsman's Club  
 10645 N. Lanes Road  
 Fresno, CA 93720

**4th Thursday of every  
 Month**  
**6 PM Skills Training**  
**7 PM Program**



McKenzie Cup Winner  
 1989

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