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Granite Bay Flycasters
P.O Box 1107
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Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat and promoting Fly fishing and good sportsmanship.

Meetings: Granite Bay Flycasters general meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay clubhouse located in the Granite Bay Group picnic Area at Folsom Lake. For directions call Denny Welch at (530) 889-8562.

The doors open between 6:30 and 7 p.m. for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 followed by a quick refreshment break after which the main program begins, which usually consists of a slide-show talk and /or demonstration. A dynamite raffle follows the show.

Membership: To be required: \$35 for a far initiation fee for new For membership info

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MAY 6 2002



Rob Morton and Family
152 Rockglen Road
Folsom, CA 95630

May 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Conservation Committee Mtg.	3 Fishout hot creek Ron English	4 Fishout Hot creek Ron English
5 fishout Hot Creek Ron English	6	7	8	9 General Mtg. 7-10P.M.	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Board Mtg. 7-9P.M.	17	18
19	20	21 Fly Tying Jam And Rod Building	22	23	24	25 Fishout Shad Gary Flanagan
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Officers		
President	Denny Welch	530-889-8562
V.P. Membership	Jeremy Gray	916-797-3312
V.P. Conservation	John Carroz	916-783-0802
Secretary	Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Treasurer	John Bergman	530-271-7032

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Through 2001	Dave Baker	916-315-0715
Through 2002	Jeff Medina	916-353-1992
Through 2002	Linda Shaw	530-885-3111
Through 2003	Jack Ramos	916-774-9972
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	Steve Johnson	530-644-4061
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President's Message
By Denny Welch

Oh, man. Life is good. I told you in my last message that I love the springtime and I haven't changed my mind. The season seems to bring out a certain excitement and sense of anticipation in me. I look forward to all the wonderful things to come in the next several months and I can't wait for them to happen...kind of like a kid at Christmas.

Our annual dinner was one of the best ever. What started as organized chaos came together at the end with a fascinating flourish. Our speaker, Brian O'Keefe, gave a presentation that we'll talk about for years. His slides of Alaska made you feel like you were there. The silent auction was fantastic. We had almost forty items ranging from rods and reels to exotic trips. We had literally thousands and thousands of dollars of auction items that went for a fraction of their usual price. The raffle, as usual, was fantastic. There were about 150 raffle items. I've never seen so many rods in a raffle. Joe and Barbara Bania were presented with the Jim Coleman Conservation Award and Pete Peterson was presented with the President's Award. Kudos to Chris Ronshausen and Frank Stolten and the other members of the dinner committee for another job well done.

We had a fishout at Greenstone Country (near Placerville) a week ago. There were about 20 members that littered the lake with float tubes, prams, pontoons and other floating devices that defy description. (I thought I saw one guy hanging on to a log, but he was probably from another club.) We all caught fish. The highlight of the day, though, was Tony Homomoto's fresh BBQ ribs for lunch. Now THAT is what a fishout should be like. I'm going to make a motion that Tony be our Club Cook.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Jim Hunter came up with a good idea (it's about time). Just kidding. Anyhow, he suggested a Couple's Only fishout. We can all get together at someplace like Fuller Lake, etc. for what would probably turn out to be a fantastic day. More to follow on that one.

Mike Brune's rod building class is going strong with about 15 members building rods and the fly tying jam had about that many people in attendance as well. I'm encouraged by the number of fathers bringing their kids to our activities.

There's nothing preventing us from bringing our grandkids to a meeting or two. It'll make you look good in their eyes and we would welcome them with open arms.

I'm going to end this now because I have to pack for a trip to the Green River, Utah. I'm going with a dozen other members of our club. These are people I didn't know a few years ago, but who are now friends I will have for the rest of my life. This club has filled a void I used to have in my life and it can do the same for you. Get involved.

Until next time.

Denny

THRIFT SHOP

Submitted by: Linda Shaw

I enjoy being able to spend money on a great rod or reel. But, I also enjoy converting something inexpensive into functional fly fishing gear.

Fly tying is not an economical hobby. However, it is magical to catch a fish on feathers, thread and tinsel that you have changed into something that appeals to the fish. So, who cares that we all have boxes full of expensive makings for flies. We have all paid \$35.00 for an exotic feather for one fly that you may only use once. We have all gone into the fly shop for a spool of thread and have written a check for \$85.00 with no return change. Soooo, when I saved bucks on a fly tying worktable I have to spread the word. I love those beautiful hand crafted work tables that cost up to \$350.00. But, when I saw a blackboard with wooden trim at Staples for \$10.00, my imagination took over.

(Continued on page 3)

HEENAN LAKE INTERPRETATIVE DISPLAY

A big *THANK YOU* to those who have volunteered to help make this project a reality. The rest of you still have time to sign up. The areas in which you can assist include:

- designing the structure and preparing working drawings, structural calculations, elevations
- obtaining construction materials
- designing and/or making decorative wooden signs
- artistic/graphic design for education materials
- on-site installation
- publicity

Please contact Joe and Barbara Bania at (530) 677-4263 if you want to assist with this worthy project.

SPECIAL FISH OUT AT HENDERSON SPRINGS EARLY 2003

The management at Henderson Springs has offered *Granite Bay Flycasters* a special 3 day 2 night stay at the lodge Friday, January 31 to Sunday February 2, 2003. This is the opening of their season and they can only accommodate **8 people maximum**. Because it is at only 2500' elevation, the weather can be clear and cold (or Mother Nature could provide rain or snow -- but the fish still bite!). If you are interested, call me now and make reservations for this special offer because I want to let them know we will gladly accept their generosity and partake of this special. I can be reached at (530) 677-4263, Joe or Barbara Bania.

EDITORS NOTE: MORE ON HENDERSON SPRINGS ON NEXT LEADER.

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FLY FISHING BASICS COURSE

Dates: May 13 and May 20, 2002 (Monday evenings, 6:30 pm)

Nine members signed up for this course at the April meeting. We have room for a few more. The sign up sheet will be available at the May meeting. The course will be taught by Rob Ferroggiaro, Sturmer White, and Bill Carnazzo. It is designed for beginning to intermediate anglers, and covers equipment, flies, reading the water, strategy, and fishing techniques/savvy that you won't find in the books. For more information, or to get on the list before the May meeting, call Bill Carnazzo at (916) 663-2604.

NORTH YUBA NYMPHING CLINIC

Date: June 22, 2002

There are a few openings for the clinic due to cancellations since the April meeting. These will fill rapidly at or before the May meeting. Your best chance for getting a spot would be to call me (916-663-2604). I will have a standby sign up list at the May meeting. If cancellations occur, I will call those on the sign up list on a first come, first serve basis

(Continued from page 2)

I turned it over to the white dry erase side and upside down so the eraser ledge is at the top. Then, I drilled holes in the frame for dowels for thread and holes in the ledge for tools. I sawed a 6" piece out of the lower frame down to the dry erase board and removed it. This is to sweep tiny bits of stuff off the white dry erase surface into a plastic bag. The plastic bag has a zipper opening that tends to hold the edge open. It came from packaging for pillowcases at Ross (no cost). I screwed two brass cup holders for the bag into the bottom edge of the frame. This also acts as a stop against the surface where it sits. I put another cup holder at the end of the board to hold a small whiskbroom and dustpan.

My table doesn't compare to the great handcrafted work of art the some of

Shad Fishout

Gary Flanagan

May signals the start of Shad Season in the Sacramento area. I was always told that when you see the Cottonwood seed puffs floating through the air it is a sure sign that there be Shad in our Gold Country Rivers. We are lucky to have the American, Sacramento, Feather and Yuba Rivers in our backyard. Twenty fish days are not uncommon once the pods are located.

We have scheduled this month's fishout on May 25th, somewhere on the American River.

Unfortunately, this is a Saturday. We also have twenty-five members signed up for this fishout. It would be difficult to find areas for everyone to fish. At this time of year, people are shoulder to shoulder on the river in the best fishing spots.

A better alternative is to also plan several trips on weekday mornings; weekday evenings after work and float trips.

My telephone number is (916) 791-3528 and my e-mail is gkasd@quiknet.com. If you want to go on a fishout sometime in May or June, please let me know if you prefer a weekday morning, weekday afternoon, weekend or anytime float trip, (providing that you have your own flotation device suitable for the river).

Also, please let me know your level of shad fishing expertise so we can match up groups of fly fishers.

If you have questions regarding rods, reels, lines flies, locations or anything else, give me a call. If I get enough interest we can meet as a group prior to the fishouts to discuss equipment and techniques for shad fishing.

knows that salmon don't bite in fresh water because they are hungry. I certainly don't want to end up in the hospital, or worse, with a gunshot wound to the head, so goodbye Feather River in the fall.

I also decided not to fish anywhere there are planted trout because only sissies catch planters, (this was a quote from a wild trout enthusiast.) So long Lake Amador and Henderson Springs.

I won't even go into indicator, (bobber); fishing and high sticking is tantamount to drifting worms. (*Sorry for that one, Bill*)

There are those that believe only true fly fishers fish Catskill tied dry flies on bamboo rods. They wouldn't be caught dead throwing Parachute Adams or swinging nymph patterns.

Finally, I know bass fishers that won't fish for trout and trout fishers that wouldn't fish for bass.

So here I am, thinking there's not a lot of fishing left for me. Then, it suddenly dawned on me! To be a truly great fly fisher like my friend, all I had to do was **not** fish anymore.

I now have all the time in the world to work on perfecting the fine art of fabrication.

(Continued from page 14)

streamers such as the Whistler, Sar-Mul-Mac, and the Punch. When bass are the most active such as early and late or at night, try a large Sheep Shad.

Color is very important to bass as they can differentiate between very subtle tones. As a general rule, use dark colors in dirty water or very low light levels and light colored flies in clearer water.

This is all very general. Experience is the best teacher. You will find bass in different lakes have developed a fondness for a particular color. If you are heading for a new lake, give me a call and I will be glad to tell you my experience on that particular lake.

Pete Peterson

Why I Don't Fish Anymore

By Gary W. Flanagan

The other day I went to Rancho Murrieta to fish for bass. After an uneventful morning of casting to shore, I happened on several openings in the weed beds and saw several large bass and bluegill cruising along the bottom in about four feet of water.

Needless to say I was excited! After a few hours of fishing, I was able to catch and release fifteen bass ranging from three to seven pounds. I also caught and released several huge blue gills. My friend Sturmer looked at me with a jaundiced eye but I noticed that after awhile, he was too was fishing in the same manner. Once released unharmed, these fish returned to their lair, no worse for wear.

This was the best Largemouth day of fishing for size that I have ever had. These fish were truly toads.

Several days later I was sharing my experience with a fellow angler. After telling the story he replied with utter disgust, "I DON'T FISH BEDS." His statement struck me like the envenomation from a six-foot Diamondback.

Needless to say my ego was deflated. I was hurt. I felt like slime algae under the feet of true fly fishers. I swallowed the bile welling up from the pit of my stomach, shrugged it off and respectfully listened to what a great angler had to say.

That's when I decided I was going to do what ever it took to be a great angler. I decided that I would never again fish warm water lakes from March to May.

Then I started to think, last year while on the Green River a stranger told me he didn't fish San Juan Worm and Glo Bug patterns because they weren't real flies. So I decided I wouldn't fish these abominations. Not even on the Yuba!

Then, I remembered someone on the Feather River saying in disgust that anyone that catches salmon during the runs should be shot. Everyone

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Cameron Park Lake Rehab

Mark Pinski

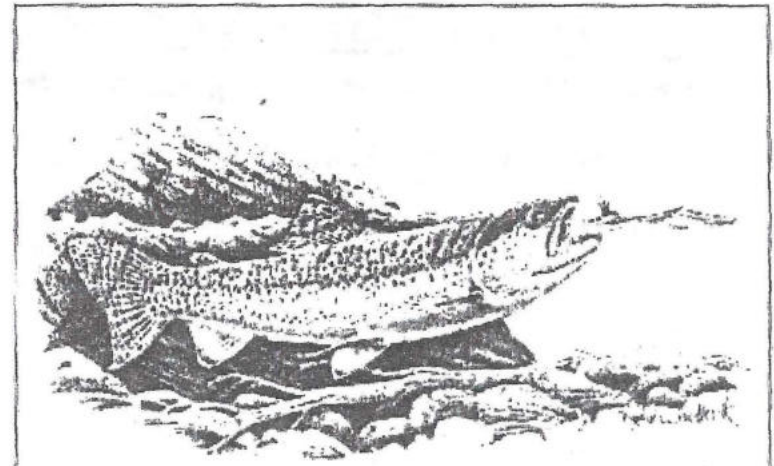
Over the past two years aquatic weeds have taken over and choked Cameron Park Lake. Anyone attempting to glide a pram, pontoon, canoe or paddleboat over the lake last summer would quickly become stuck. Cameron Park Community Services District approved a rehab program of the lake that is taking place now through the end of the summer.

An expert from University of California at Davis has readily identified five species of aquatic weeds. Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), an exotic, invasive, submersed type plant, has taken over the lake and is adding sediment to the bottom of the lake. This aquatic weed can multiple at a phenomenal rate as witnessed in the last two years.

An herbicide (Aquathal-K) has been added to the lake to control the weed growth. This chemical is not supposed to harm the fish. In early July the lake will be drained. I'm unsure exactly what will happen with the current fish population of bass, bluegill, crappie and catfish. The lake will be dredged over a 6-week period to remove the vegetative growth and 30,000 to 40,000 cubic yards of material. The lake will probably not fill up until after the next seasons rain.

It may be a good idea to call the Cameron Park Community Services District about water conditions before making the trip (530) 677-2231. They will be able to tell you about the water, but not a whole lot about the fishing. In fact the front gate staff has been known to allow people to take bass out of the lake despite the catch and release regulations that have been on the lake a few years. I guess our work as stewards of the resources is never done. A few quick comments about the benefits of catch and release by a handful of members can help establish a decent fishery on this local community lake that already has catch and release bass regulations.

If you didn't make it to the lake last summer, you will notice there is a 3-foot fence that restricts shore access and trailered boat access on the north end of the lake. But for those who have prams, pontoons, tubes, canoes, jon-boats and car-toppers, the lake is accessible for easy launching through little gates. The lake opens at 7 AM and close before dusk (unfortunately). Usage fees will still be in effect during the rehab period and remain at \$3.50 for those outside the Cameron Park Community Service District area.



Lots of gift ideas!



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(Continued from page 9)

tie with only one pincer. Crayfish turn a greenish color when they molt. The bass knows that there is no hard shell and the pincers are very weak. To the bass this means "time to eat".

It doesn't matter which type of bass you are fishing for. The fly must be retrieved in a similar movement as the real thing. I saw a fly fisherman tossing out a mouse pattern and retrieving it in two foot long pulls. I was fishing a mouse pattern at the same time only with very short 2-3 inch pulls. Guess who caught the most fish.

In selecting a pattern for largemouth, it takes a lot more thought. You need to know at what depth the fish are holding. You can try trial and error but the best bet is to ask at the marina or general store. The Fish Sniffer magazine is also a good source. Quite often the water temperature will tell you. Some bass can always be found in shallow water but largemouth prefer 65-75 degree temp. On most of the lakes in our area, if you take a surface temperature you can deduct 1 degree for every 3 feet of water depth. However, the largest bass I ever caught was on a day pushing 100 degrees and the fish was in less than one foot of water. Remember - no hard fast rules.

The second most important item to ask the marina is what is the dominant source of food in the lake. It is the job of Marina workers to make your trip productive so you will come back. Therefore they will usually be straight with you. If you tell them that you are wading or in a float tube. they will usually be able to tell you the best place to start.

Do you want to catch quantity or quality? It makes all the difference in the world as it is very seldom that you can do both. If fishing for quantity, downsize your flies to no larger than a size 2 or 4. Stay with the smaller Bass Buggers or a leech pattern. Early and late the Foam Diver is also very good. In the case of all largemouth, you will have to learn to read "structure". Bass are almost never found in open water. Structure means "anything out of the ordinary from a plain bottom". Some examples are: overhanging trees or brush, trees down in the water, boat docks, tree stubs, drop offs, underwater hills, large boulders, large beds of weeds or any place they can hide for an ambush or find shade. If you are interested in fishing for hogs (over 5 lbs.), use a fly that bumps the bottom. Excellent flies for this purpose are the Bass Bugger, Bonker, Whitlock Hair Jig, Eelworm streamer and large

(Continued on page 17)

No Offense Gentleman

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Hosted by Jeanne English 530-677-7169

Call to sign up or see me at the may meeting/

WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE MAY 11&12

Two day Wilderness first aid course, facilitated by the Wilderness Medical Institute. To be held at the ETC river camp near Caloma on Highway 49. Nationally recognized certificate given upon completion of course. Food: Bring your own. You may camp at the river that night if you care to. Great facility set up for disabled. Toilets and hot showers. Wonderful outdoor kitchen for cooking. Cost: \$130. RSVP: Davido@415 474 7662 ex. 15 or davido@etctrips.org, or Aaron @ 4154747662 Ex. 19. Can get directions or more information from them or Linda Shaw, 916 885 3111

FLY TYING SKILLS PROGRAM

*Sponsored by American Fly
Fishing Company*

Pattern for January Program:
(featured in the December Leader)

Don't be shy submit a fly! Ask for a critique from a more experienced tier; it will ultimately increase your chances at catching fish and winning certificates to help support your habit.

For the winner of each category, American Fly Fishing has generously donated the following prizes for each month's contest.

Beginner: \$15 Gift Certificate

Non-beginner: \$25 Gift Certificate

* The winner of the gift certificate in the non-beginner category will be determined by a drawing between those who have entered that specific contest.

February Winners:

Experienced: Bragging Right Ron English
Ron English \$25 Gift Certificate

Beginner: Dennis Truman \$15 Gift Certificate

Program rules:

- * judging will be during the meeting
- * best tied fly announced with instructions from the Leader (right or wrong, and irrespective of whether you find another version of the pattern in a book somewhere), in order to keep the playing field level. The judges need to make a choice based on a single pattern.

Collar Peacock herl
Head Small thread head

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. De-barb the hook and add a small black bead placed at the eye.
2. Mount the thread just behind the bead and tie on a 5" piece of chartreuse wire.
3. Whip finish behind the eye. The idea here is to keep the entire shank of the hook bare, so that when the wire is wrapped it will make a smooth, even body.
4. Tie the thread back on the hook at a point midway down the bend, as this is where the wire body will stop.
5. Wrap the wire rearward, making sure each wind is tight and up against the previous one. Wrap the wire to a point halfway down the bend of the hook and tie it off there.
6. Whip finish the thread again, and re-mount it behind the bead.
7. Tie on two or three peacock herls by their tips, and wind them around the thread. An alternative method would be to tie them on, and then create a dubbing loop; once the loop is created, twist the loop and the peacock herl together to form a rope. The reason for tying the herls in by their tips is that when they are twisted, they will twist first near the shank; when they are tied in by their butts, they twist first at the end near your hand. This is because the stem of the herl is thinner at the tip, and thicker at the butt. Simple physics tells us that when the torque of the twist is applied, the weaker part of the stem will twist first.
8. Take two or three turns of the herl and tie it off behind the eye. Whip finish and....

See ya on the creek...!!!

Flytier's Corner

BY
BILL CARNAZZO
May, 2002

Green Rockworm

"Green rockworm" is another generic common name for certain species of free-living (i.e., no case) caddis larva. A typical pattern for this insect is featured here, since early (i.e., now) season is a good time to fish rockworms. Generally, they are found amongst the rubble in freestone streams. They are green in color, ranging from bright chartreuse to various shades of olive. Because trout eat them regularly, we flyfishers are very interested in them and their behavior.

Various green rock worm patterns have previously been featured in this column. This month's pattern bears no specific name, even though I recently created it at my vise. Because I feel certain that someone else has also come up with the same combination of materials and tying method, and because the pattern is so simple and basic, I claim no originality for it. I do, however, have some high expectations for it on the Upper Sacramento and McCloud Rivers this spring. Suffice it to say that you do need to have a green rockworm of some type in your fly box for the early season. A hint: check out the term "behavioral drift" in your fly fishing books.

MATERIALS:

Hook	Standard 1x long nymph hook of choice, #14-16
Thread	Olive 6/0 or 8/0
Tail	None
Body	Chartreuse colored copper wire (brassie size)
Bead	Black, small

WARMWATER FLY FISHING

At our last club meeting I was asked three different times about which fly to use for bass. This is a very valid question but one that does not have a set answer.

I will try to cover some of the basics but there is no answer that works all of the time.

Fishing for bass in a river is the simplest form of which fly to use. 90% of the time I will start with a woolly bugger with a peacock herl body and olive marabou tail. I will also carry with me other woolly buggers in white, yellow and chartreuse. Other flies that work well on most rivers are the Fatal Attraction, Marabou Muddler Minnow, Zonker, Zoo Cougar, Clouser Crayfish, Murray Hellgrammite and the Gurgler. I can not remember a situation where one of these flies has not worked. Smallmouth bass in rivers have a tougher time finding a meal than there lake counterparts. For this reason, smallmouth in a river are generally easier to catch. Use the same retrieve that you would use fishing for trout with a streamer. The only difference is in a deep pool. The bass tend to hold tight to the side of the wall. For the smaller bass, don't overlook any of the trout dry flies you use, especially a hopper or moth pattern.

We have a different story in lakes. Staying with the smallmouth, they prefer a lake with clean water and a rocky shoreline. They can also be found in brush if the bottom is not too muddy. If there is fair visibility, I will usual start with the Whitlock Sheep Shad. If I do not get any action within 15-20 minutes, I will change the retrieve. Always try two or three different retrieves before you give up on the fly. In the same type of water I would again go to the Fatal Attraction, Marabou Muddler, or Zonker. If the water has poor visibility, I will start with a dark colored Whistler. NO FLY lets the bass know that something is in the water as well as the Whistler. If this doesn't work I will usually try a dark Sar-Mul-Mac next. The Bonker tied in dark colors and a short tail will also work very well if the bass are holding on the bottom as they usually do in dirty water. When working along a very rocky shoreline or off the face of the dam, nothing works better than a crayfish pattern. **READ CAREFULLY!** When a crayfish is a reddish or brown color, it has a hard shell and smallmouth will sometimes shy away. If the fly pattern has large pincers, the smallmouth will quite often not even try to take it on. When you are tying this color of fly, make the pincers small or

(Continued on page 14)

DAVIS LAKE FISHOUT June 5th- 8th

It's time again to make our pilgrimage to Davis Lake to try our hand again at fishing for the Rainbow, Brown, Kamloop and Eagle Lake trout. If you're ever so fortunate (?) you may even latch onto a Pike. Davis Lake is located approximately 150 miles east and north of Sacramento and provides some excellent morning and evening fishing. Daytime fishing can be equally good depending on the winds, which have a tendency to come up around midday. A number of people will be camping and others can find accommodations in Portola, which is 7+ miles south of the lake. Some of us plan to arrive on Wednesday, June 5th, while others will show up later in the week depending on their schedule. We now have some 23 signed up for this outing and, hopefully, more will add their name to the list at our May meeting.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Sleepy Pines Motel – Portola (530-832-4921)

LAKE CAMPING: Grasshopper Flat and Lightning Tree Campgrounds
Grizzly Creek Store (530-832-0270)

CONTACT: Gene Allen 916-645-4330
Jim Hunter 916-652-5057

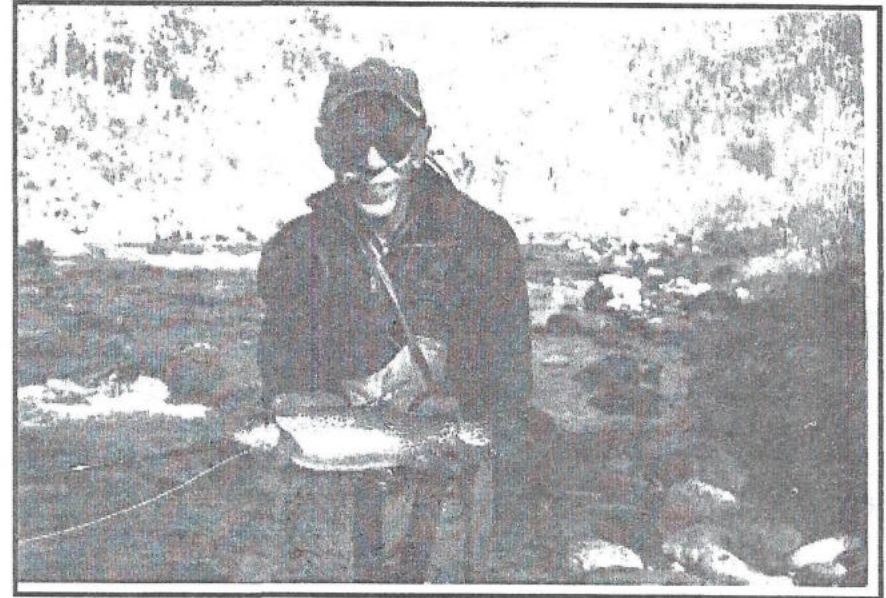
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- * The Sacramento
- * The Yuba
- * New Melones Lake
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