

What's Hot and What's Not™ (THE Northern California Flyfishing Report) from *Fish First!* – updated 18 June 2008

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

Fishery	Water Conditions	Fishing Conditions, Techniques, and Hatches	Flies	Comments
Butte Creek (Butte Meadows)	Slight tint, low 50's F, good flow.	Fishing is fair to good. Fishing around Cherry Hill campground is good all day for stocked trout. These eager fish will take a well placed attractor dry in runs and tailouts. The wild trout away from the campground are a little more selective. The best bit of the day starts after 5pm with fish rising to caddis and mayflies in the shade. As the sun gets off the water, look for action to improve all the way to dark.	Attractor dries irresistible adams, parachute light cahill, Rio Grande trude, Pink & lime trude, yellow humpy, parachute adams, indicator fly, paralyzer, royal coachman, crystal stimulator, renegade, royal wulff. Golden stonefly dries Hogan's split-wing stone, hangin stimi, rubber-legged stimulator, Rogue foam stone, paralyzer (#8-12). Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere). Caddis cripples/dries/pupae (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Access at Cherry Hill Campground. NCDAG pg. 58.
Carson River, E.F. (Hangman's Bridge to Nevada State line).	Slight tint, mid 50s, good flow (532 cfs).	Fishing is fair and improving. Runoff is decreasing and bugs are getting active. PMD's start hatching in the afternoon followed by yellow sallies and golden stones around 5pm and #12-14 brown mayflies at dusk. In the morning fish will take an attractor beadhead nymph fished under a high floating attractor dry. Large streamers are also producing. Fish them on a floating line in the riffles or pocket water and with a type 2 sink tip in the deeper pools and runs. We are a week away from this water being in prime condition.	Little yellow stone dries Hogan's yellow hanging stimulator, Brooks headlight little yellow sally, Cutter's little yellow sally, Quigley's little yellow sally, yellow stimulator, yellow crystal stimulator (#14-16). River woolly buggers/streamers Black beadhead woolly bugger, muddler minnow, Hogan's puff/clawdad, matuka, Morrish's sculpin, black woolhead sculpin, near nuff sculpin. BWO/Baetis emerger/dries (listed elsewhere). PMD emergers/cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor dries (listed elsewhere in the report).	Access at Hangman's Bridge on Hwy 89. Best fishing is above the confluence of Markleeville Creek. NCDAG pg 90.
Davis Lake (near Portola off hwy 70)	Clear, low 60s F.	Fishing is good. Best fishing is from 10am to 2pm during the damsel migration. Use a slow retrieve with a floating fly line and a long leader with a sparse damsel pattern. Target rising or boiling fish around Freeman, Coot Bay and Cow Creek. In the morning, the best action is from a float tube. In the afternoon, trout will move into the shallows. Walking the bank leading cruising fish with a damsel and blood midge dropper is catching some larger fish in the 15 to 20 inch range.	Damsel fly nymphs/dries 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 (#12-16). Blood midge pupa Bead brain blood midge pupa, desert storm, WD 40 red, red brassie, disco midge red, red and copper zebra midge (#12-14).	Moderate to heavy fishing pressure. NCDAG pg 70.
Deer Creek (above Potato Patch Campground down to Ishi Wilderness)	Slight tint, low 50's F, 123 cfs at Vina.	Fishing is good. From Deer Creek Falls to Elam campground there are lots of planted rainbows. Fishing below the falls is catch and release only with fewer but larger rainbows. Fish will rise to mayflies in the morning and caddis and stoneflies in the evening. Nymphing with an attractor beadhead nymph in the deeper pools during the day will find the fish. This is good shaded water and perfect for fishing with a 3 weight rod. Trout average 6-12".	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, Blue ribbon X2 caddis, Fox's crowning poopah olv/cinn, Kyle's better foam caddis (#12-20). Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor dries (listed elsewhere in the report). Golden stonefly dries (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate to high fishing pressure around campgrounds along highway 32. Access off Hwy 32 from Deer Creek bridge upstream to Hwy 36. NCDAG pg. 58.
Fall River (Cal Trout access to Spring Creek Rd.)	Clear, normal flow.	Fishing is fair to good. Hatches are improving with a few tricos coming off in the morning around 9am. The best bite is from 10am to 1pm with fish rising to PMD's throughout the river. A delicate downstream drift with a flashback pt under a PMD imitation dry will hook some good fish. When the wind comes up in the afternoon, switch to an olive or black bugger fished on a sinking line on the inside bends of the river. The hex hatch is also starting. Look for them in the lower sections of the river before dusk. The peak of this hatch is a week away.	Tricos triple wing spinner, male poly spinner, twilight trico spinner, Barr's drowned spinner. BWO/Baetis nymphs Hogan's S&M nymph, Hogan's better baetis, 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 (#16-22). PMD emergers/cripples/dries (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure. Pram with electric motor needed. Public access is at Cal Trout. NCDAG pg 38.

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Feather River, N.F. (Beldon Forebay to Lake Oroville)	Slight tint, mid 50s F, slightly high but good flow.	Fishing is good. The best fishing is when the sun is off the water. Start the day fishing a copper john dropper under a high floating dry. Fishing slows in the heat of the afternoon as the trout move to deeper runs and pocket water. Try indicator nymphing deep with a stonefly nymph with a caddis pupa dropper. The best action is from 5pm to dusk during the caddis, mayfly and stonefly hatches. The risers have a fondness for emerging caddis. Stoneflies show after 7pm near Rock Creek, Tobin and Belden. Be sure to stay late for the best rise.	Golden stonefly dries Hogan's split-wing stone, hangin stimi, rubber-legged stimulator, Rogue foam stone, paralyzer (#8-12). Golden stonefly nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor dries (listed elsewhere). Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere). Caddis cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/emergers Mercer's tungsten swing caddis, Amber wing caddis, pulsating caddis (tan, olive), Fox's poopah (olive, tan), Mercer's z-wing (green, amber), Fox's springtime poopah, Amber wing prince, M's Dirty Bird, (tan, olive) (#12-18).	Expect light fishing pressure. Access along Hwy 70. NCDAG pg 59.
Hat Creek (PH#2 to fish barrier)	Green, low to mid 40s F, good flow.	Fishing is fair to good. Reports of a good trico hatch coming off at 9am along the flats below ph2 riffle. Very technical fishing with longer leaders and delicate downstream drifts to rising rainbows. Hatches of caddis, PMD's and callibaetis come off midmorning. Drifting a callibaetis dry with a PMD dropper will hook fish in the riffles at ph2. Fish will rise for caddis around 6pm followed by little yellow stones around 7pm. The grassy banks in Carbon flats have some large trout looking up at dark.	Callibaetis nymphs Janssen's emerging callibaetis, pheasant tail, Scharantz callibaetis, tungsten skinny nelson, pickpocket (#14-16). 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, parachute adams (#14-16). BWO/Baetis emerger/dries (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere). PMD emergers/cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). Tricos (listed elsewhere).	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.
Hot Creek	Slight tint, low to high 40s F, 48 cfs.	Fishing is good. Flows are good and fish are responding to hatches. In the morning fish will key on midges followed by BWO's. Caddis are starting to show in the afternoon. Fishing a small E/C caddis as the hatch begins will get some good rises. Look for the trico, PMD and caddis hatches to improve in upcoming weeks. Be sure to bring a variety of small patterns, size 20 to 22, to fool these educated fish.	BWO/Baetis emerger/dries Brook's KD dun, Mercers poxyback bwo, fluttering mayfly cripple BWO, Harrop captive dun, Brooks CDC dun baetis, hackle stacker BWO, loopwing paradun, twilight baetis dun day-glo, Brook's sprout baetis, Harrop's CDC BWO emerger, Quigley's loopy cripple stacker, Burk's silhouette dun (#16-20). BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere). Midge pupa (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure on weekends. Access at upper parking lot and fish downstream to the hot springs. NCDAG pg 112.
Little Truckee	Slight tint. Low to mid 50's. Moderate flow (202 cfs)	Fishing is fair to good. Hatches include midges in the morning followed by PMD's midday and smaller caddis and PED's in the evening. Fish are most active during the PMD and caddis hatch. You need a drag free drift to fool these educated trout. Present flies with a reach mend on a downstream drift. If they see the fly line they usually won't grab the fly.	BWO/Baetis emerger/dries (listed elsewhere) Midge pupa (listed elsewhere), PMD emergers /cripples/ dries (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere).	Expect heavy fishing pressure, especially on weekends. Fish between Boca and Stampede Reservoirs. NCDAG 81.
Pit River #3,#4, #5 (below Lake Britton to Big Bend)	Slight tint, mid to high 50s F, controlled release on Pit #3: 150 cfs.	Fishing is good to very good. Pit 3, 4 and 5 are all fishing well with hatches of PMD's midday followed by caddis and little yellow stones after 6pm. Indicator nymphing is productive all day. Fish a larger stone or attractor nymph trailed by a smaller dark dropper. Be sure to concentrate your efforts on the fast pocket water and runs. These trout do not like the slow water or pools. You might find a few risers midday in the shade, but the best dry fly fishing is in the evening with the caddis and yellow stones. Stay until dark for the best action.	Attractor beadhead nymphs royal flush, Hogan's Steelie Caddis, hare's ear, twenty incher, Eng thing, Fred Gordon amber wing prince, Hart's dark lord, copper john (red, black, lime, copper) Hogan's amber wing attractor, Tungsten Hotwire prince (olive/copper & Green/Yellow), Queen prince, bh buggy bird's nest, black AP (#10-18). Golden stonefly nymphs and Golden stonefly dries (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere). Attractor dries (listed elsewhere).	Moderate to heavy 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.
Sacramento River, Lower (below Keswick Reservoir)	Slight tint, mid 50s, moderate flow (12,500 cfs).	Fishing is fair. Fishing is improving with steady flows and warmer, consistent weather. Nymphing from a drift boat at these flows is the most productive method. The best setup is a caddis pupa with a micro mayfly dropper. Below Anderson, drifting a rubberleg stone with a caddis pupa dropper will hook fish along the clay banks. In the afternoon, concentrate on 4-6 feet of water near vegetation with caddis pupa. A few scattered fish are rising to caddis in the evening.	Golden stonefly nymphs jumbo john, Morrish cone stone, Morrish WMD, Mercer's raghead, Poxystack golden stone nymph, Mercer's poxyquill golden stone, micro cable stone, beadhead twenty incher, copper back, Burglar stone golden, tungsten rag stone golden (#8-12). BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere). Caddis cripples/dries (listed elsewhere).	With these higher flows, best access is by pontoon or drift boat. Wade access is limited. DO NOT wade into the rainbow trout redds. NCDAG pg 46, 57.

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Sacramento River, Upper (Lake Siskiyou to Lake Shasta)	Slight tint, mid 50's. Moderate flow (389 at Delta).	Fishing is good to very good. Flows have decreased and hatches are at their peak. Best fishing is in the afternoon and evening when stoneflies, mayflies and caddis are being gobbled by hungry trout. In the morning, start with a golden stone nymph with a black beadhead nymph dropper in the riffles and pocket water. Look for PMD's, or pink alberts, coming off at 1pm. In the evening, fish are rising to caddis followed by little yellow and golden stones. Be sure to stay for the 8:30 frenzy. Fish are aggressively taking dries all the way until dark. Lots of smaller trout are showing so be sure to look for the subtle risers, which mean larger fish.	PMD emergers/cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). Pale morning dun nymphs (listed elsewhere). BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/ emergers (listed elsewhere). Caddis cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). Golden stonefly nymphs (listed elsewhere). Attractor beadhead nymphs (listed elsewhere).	Expect moderate fishing pressure, even with higher flows. Be careful when wading. NCDAG 36, 46.
Truckee River (Trout Creek to CA Stateline)	Slight Tint, high 40's to low 50's. Slightly high flow (188 cfs).	Fishing is good. Fish are rising to PMD's midday, and green drakes, yellow sallies and march browns in the evening. Water levels have dropped and temperatures have come up making the trout hungry all day with multiple hatches at the same time. Start the day with a high floating attractor dry and a beadhead dropper. When PMD's start coming off give the fish a delicate downstream drift with a reach mend so the first thing the fish sees is the fly.	PMD emergers/cripples/dries (listed elsewhere). BWO/Baetis emerger/dries (listed elsewhere) Golden stonefly nymphs (listed elsewhere) River woolly buggers/streamers (listed elsewhere) BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere).	Good access at Glenshire and below Boca Reservoir. Expect moderate fishing pressure. NCDAG 81.
Yuba River, Lower (from Englebright dam to Marysville)	Clear, low 50s, moderate flow, 1350 cfs below Englebright dam.	Fishing is fair to good. This is a tricky fishery. There are plenty of hatches coming off throughout the day. Finding what fish are taking is the difficult part. PMD's will start around noon followed by caddis. In the evening fish will rise to little yellow stones and mayflies. Switch flies often to find what they will take. A drag free drift is a must to full these big trout. Indicator nymphing is also good in the runs with olive caddis and PMD nymphs.	PMD emergers/cripples /dries 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). BWO/Baetis nymphs (listed elsewhere). Pale morning dun nymphs (listed elsewhere). Caddis pupa/emergers (listed elsewhere).	Water above Hwy 20 bridge is open. 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 50's, low flow (197 cfs).	Fishing is good. Best fishing is in the afternoon to dark from Downieville up to Sierra City. In the morning, fish will rise to an attractor dry in the riffles and pocket water. Add a beadhead nymph dropper to get more action. In the afternoon, fish are rising to caddis and stoneflies fished in tailouts and pools. Cover lots of water to find actively rising fish. This is great water for a 3 weight rod.	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.
Small Stream Clinic- 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. June 7, 14, 28. July 6, 12, 19. Cost is \$175 per person.				
One Day Youth Introduction to Fly Fishing Clinic- Trying to get your son or daughter in to fly fishing ? Our instructors love nothing more than seeing a kid hook their first fish on a fly. The day starts with a discussion of the essential elements of fly fishing tailored to a younger anglers needs, with plenty of breaks and snacks. After lunch we will cover the basic elements of fly casting and then students will have the opportunity to catch their first fish on a fly in a stream around Chico filled with trout. Cost is \$175 per person and includes a take home book, snacks, and equipment. June 21, July 19.				
Shad Report Sacramento River- Good reports of shad being caught from Colusa all the way up to Red Bluff. Best access is off River road in Chico and Woodson bridge above Chico. Fishing a 200 grain shooting head with Rio's slick shooter running line will hook shad on the swing, stripped in, or jigged off the back of a boat in slower back eddies where shad can find relief from the current. American River- Flows have increase spreading shad from Paradise beach all the way to Sunset. Cover lots of water to find the big pod of fish. Swinging flies on a type 6 shooting head will get the flies down. Yuba River- A few reports of some moderate success below Daguerre dam. Best reports recently have been from the Sacramento river. Feather River- Shad were stacked up at Shanghai bend with lower flows. Flows have increase moving shad up the river and spreading them out. Swinging, stripping and jigging shad darts on type 2 or 3 sink tip lines will get a few fish. Cover lots of water and change stripping to find what will make shad bite.				

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Other Reports **Lake Almanor** hex hatch is just starting. Look for it to really get going in another week. Fish near the dam. Get on the water by 7pm and use a sinking line with a hex nymph. The bugs start showing around 8:30pm and can go well into dark. A float tube or boat is needed. **Putah Creek** is poor. Water levels are at summer levels of 733 cfs., making access very tough. **Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam** is fishing fair to good with fish rising to caddis from 5pm to dusk. Best fishing is below Goodwin dam and at 2 mile bar off hwy 108. Flows have come down to 450cfs, making access easier. Indicator nymph with small caddis pupa and mayfly nymphs. Look for a caddis hatch and rising fish as it gets toward dark. **Feather River** (Hwy 70 bridge to Gridley) Flows are still good with 600cfs in the low flow and 3,000 cfs in the high flow. Few reports of steelhead being caught in the last week. Fishing the deeper pools will find a few fish but the run is nearing the end for spring. **McCloud River** (below McCloud Reservoir) Flows will be high and the river will be unfishable from June 16th to the 24th while PG&E continues with their flow studies. **Baum Lake** is fishing fair to good. Fish are rising to callibaetis midday, caddis and mayflies in the evening. Drifting an attractor dry with a beadhead dropper is a good method when nothing is rising. Also, fishing a smaller bugger along the weed beds will get some aggressive grabs from bigger hatchery fish. **Trinity River** has high, unfishable flows at 2,000 cfs. Flows will remain at 2,000 cfs until July 7, decrease to 700 cfs on July 14th, decrease to 450 cfs on July 28th and will remain at these flows until October. **Klamath River** (Iron Gate to I5) Flows are 2,020 cfs, which is on the decline and only getting better. A few reports of salmon flies on the water with some success catching smaller trout eating the big bugs. Look for the hatch to improve with lower flows and some steady warmer weather. **West Carson** is fishing fair with flows at 99 cfs. Hatches are no booming but fish can be caught on an attractor dry with a beadhead dropper. **Walker River, East Fork** (below Bridgeport Reservoir) is fishing fair to good. There is a good caddis hatch in the evening. When no hatch is present nymph with small caddis and midge pupa. Water level is good at 220cfs.

WH&WN™ FREE flyfishing report would not be possible without the help of: 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, Andy/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), Richard Hardy-Davis report, Craig Nielsen, 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.