



# CHICO AREA FLYFISHERS

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## Short Casts June 2020

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**Next General Meeting Wed, Oct 14, 2020 6:30 fly tying 7:30 Meeting.**

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Dear Friends:

**Our "sheltering in place" guidelines are easing; therefore, I have given a little update on our lakes in our backyard:**

**DAVIS LAKE AND FRENCHMAN'S LAKE** - are Open! And, camping is available at these two locations...but, not all camping amenities are available.

**LAKE ALMANOR** - *Lake Almanor Area is open!*

The lake is open to the public; all phase 2 businesses are open and we are working towards all businesses being able to reopen. But, Campgrounds are still closed; and, only one launch is open. Social distancing guidelines are still recommended. Masks are good to carry.

**ORLAND** - Black Butte LAKE is open! A new boat ramp at Black Butte Lake is open for business, just in time for the summer recreation season.

The ramp officially opened in a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 18 at the lake.

A grant from the California Department of Boating and Waterways funded the expansion project, which widened Buckhorn Recreation Area's existing boat ramp, improving boating access to the lake. The project also doubled the amount of parking at the ramp site and added wheelchair-accessible parking, solar-powered lighting and a new restroom. A new courtesy dock, paid for by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District, was also installed to further improve boating access for visitors. Though the lake is open for day use the overnight camping is not allowed, yet.

**OROVILLE** - Public access to the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area has increased in time for Memorial Day weekend and is open!

The California State Parks began the reopening process May 15 with the return to regularly scheduled hours for all day-use areas, facility parking lots and boat launch areas. The Bidwell Canyon and Lake Oroville Marinas are also open, providing shuttle service, restrooms and fuel.

Additionally, the Thermalito Diversion Pool and the North Forebay Recreation Area have reopened according to their website.

**SACRAMENTO RIVER** - Shad and stripers are being caught.

**SHASTA LAKE** - Open! Lake never closed; all the camping opened weeks ago, boat rentals and launches are available. Everything open!!!

**At this time, we still must cancel our June 2020 General Meetings and fish outs for this month due to our "shelter in place" regulations that are still in place, at the time of this newsletter.** Thank you "ALL" for the part "you" are playing.

Please continue to get your exercise such as going for walks down your street; in parks or fishing...Exercise is still important to our minds, body and soul!

"A release of 65,000 trout from their pens in the Hamilton Branch were released in Lake Almanor a few weeks ago as well as the Chester High School trout" is the news John Crotty President of Almanor Fishing Association recently told me; and, Quincy College will be releasing their browns soon.

Please be sure to check out our: September 2020 dorado fishing in Mexico; Pyramid fishing in March 2021 with Rob Anderson and trophy bass fishing Jan 2021 in our fish outs.

As shelter in place guidelines ease and areas open up, there may be last-minute emails sent out announcing new fish outs. I hope to see you soon, on a lake, with a fish on "your" line!!

Your comments, pictures and stories are "always" appreciated!!! Thank you!!!

Stay Safe!

Pat Sleeper

# Fishing photos



These were long lake fish with John Logan. They are going to drain this lake, we hear, this year as its another drought year. Nice fish John!!!



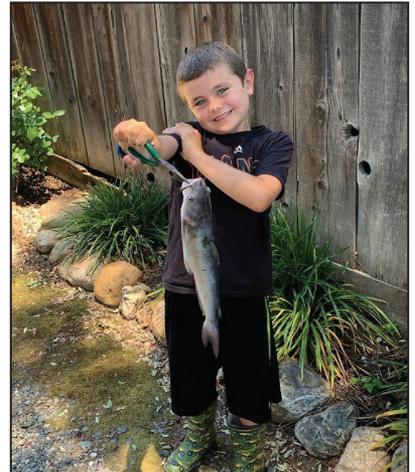
Picture of PHWFF Program in progress... With Jim Gaumer, lead caster for the program, instructing...



Fred Sherman @ Long lake with a nice trout!



This snake was my friend...or not!!! He didn't want to leave my side.



Jack got this one at horseshoe lake on thurs.



Pete Wiik with a callibaetis hatch at Long Lake.



Lee Markos with a nice brown!



Jim Sands with a NICE Pyramid Lahanton



You never know what kind of hatch you may run into...Termite Hatch.



Fish "love" seeing these damsel fly nymphs and so do I.

## Chico Area Flyfisher's Fishout Schedule 2020-21

Future outings that Chico Area Flyfisher's provide to its Membership: These Club Fish-outs are designed to give fly fishers the best opportunity to catch fish and enjoy the outdoors. Our Club has many accomplished anglers who are willing to share their skills with others and you are only limited by willingness to become involved. From selecting promising locations and time, to helping those members new to the sport, we try to make these trips fun, exciting and successful.

Elden Hinkle and Tom Rosenow are our fish-out leaders. If you have one of those favorite spots that you don't mind sharing with others and would like to lead our fellow CAF members for a day of fishing, and fellowship contact Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproduct.com or Tom Rosenow troseNOW.chico@gmail.com

This schedule may change depending on the fish bite or weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fishout Leader</u>
May 16-17	Wild horse Reservoir	CANCELLED/COVID 19
May 27-?	Crane Prairie Lake, Oregon: Rock Creek campground psleeper@sbcglobal.net	CANCELLED/COVID 19
June 20,2020	Lake Almanor "Hex hatch" @ Frank Spitari's in Almanor	CANCELLED at this time...
Aug 29 - Sep 5	Dorado fishing: La Ventana, Mexico (3 seperate weeks available)	
Sep 5 - 12	Exciting 7 nights/6 dys fishing, meals, shuttle svc.	
Sep 12 - 19	Double occupancy; w/group. Information: Don & Pat; 345-1197; www.patsflyfishing.com	
Nov TBD	Big Chico Creek, Ecological Reserve;	
Jan 10-15, 2021	Lake Picachos, Mexico; www.patsflyfishing.com – 530-345-1197 Trophy Bass fishing.	
March 20-21 2021	Pyramid Lake fishing w/Rob Anderson Pay and Play Elden Hinkle ehinkle@aaproduct.com	

## CAF General Meeting Speaker List 2020

CAF meets 9 months out of the year; and, presents a variety of exciting fly fishing-related programs throughout the year. The meet-ings also include monthly fly tying demonstrations, raffle prizes, refreshments, and the very best stories about Northern California Fly fishing. Meetings are being held on the second Wednesday of the month at "The California Park Pavilion". We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and hearing "your" fishing stories! Fly tying is at

6:30 p.m.; general meeting @ 7:30 p.m. Location: California Park Pavilion: 2565 California Park Drive Chico.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Program</u>
June 10	Cancelled COVID 19	
July-Sep	No Meetings – have fun fishing!!!	
Oct 14	John Crotty	
Nov 11	Lincoln Gray	
Dec 9	Pizza feed	



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*If it Concerns Fishing, We're Concerned*

1st PRIZE- LIFE-TIME FISHING LICENSE



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3rd PRIZE- BATTLEBORN AFA  
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**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

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530.284.0861

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[almanorfishing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almanorfishing@sbcglobal.net)

# Fly of the Month, June, 2020

## Tubular Hopper

By: Ray Narbaitz

June is usually the month when we transition from late spring to early summer. As the days get warmer and longer, it changes how we approach our local waters. With the sun high and hitting the water directly most of the day, the fish are very reluctant to come to the surface during the bulk of the day. That's why for most people, summer is an early and late proposition. That's not to say you can't catch fish in the heat of the day, it's just that you will have to change tactics to do so.

One possible exception to that rule might be Terrestrials, particularly Hoppers. Another nice thing about Hoppers is they work on both still and moving water. Hopper season usually corresponds with the summer season. However, you can often fish them well after you no longer see them moving in the grass around your water. I watched Wayne Edwards take a number of nice fish with a Hopper pattern on Lake Almanor one October.

Like most flies meant to imitate a specific bug, Hopper patterns come in both realistic and imitative iterations. As I have said before, Ron Lewis of Sierra Stream and Mountain uses a Hopper pattern that looks like it just flew out of the grass and landed on his hook keeper. I know he fishes it with great success at places like Digger Creek. While not quite as skilled as he with it, I have also enjoyed using it there. However, I've also had success there using a Hopper pattern that sort of represented a Hopper profile, but looked nothing like the real bug.

The Tubular Hopper is a Lance Egan pattern. He says it is a variation of a Hopper pattern known as the Snookie shown to him by the folks at Spinner Falls Guide Service on the Green River. Among the things I like is it's a pretty easy, quick tie. Like me, you will probably have to order the body material, as I didn't have any of it. It is a foam cylinder by Wapsi, thus the name Tubular. Egan also uses a pretty cool looking Gamakatsu hook, but I didn't feel like buying any to add to the gazillion hooks I already possess. The hook is one extra heavy with an interesting gap, but I think standard hooks will work just fine. I would suggest something like the TMC 3761, which is an extra heavy Nymph hook that is 1X long. The foam tube will have no problem keeping the hook afloat, and since Hopper takes can sometimes be pretty violent, a little heavier hook is called for.

Hook: TMC 3761, size 8 & 10

Thread: 6/0 in tan. I used Danville in Olive which is more of a dark tan

Body: Wapsi foam cylinder in Tan, size 3/16

Legs: Spanflex or Sili Legs, or Sexy Legs, or any other Spandex leg material in tan or ginger or brown or...Oh hell, you chose.

Wing: EP Fibers called for, but Zlon, Antron, or other wing materials would work. Dun or White

Hackle: Dark or Coachman Brown

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vice.
2. Start your thread just behind the eye of the hook, and take a few wraps toward the bend. Cut off the excess, and lay down a thread base to the back of the hook.
3. Take the cylinder, and cut at an angle to the back of the



- foam, to give a little taper to the tail. Egan says this may not be totally necessary, but he likes the look (see the picture).
4. Measure the cylinder so it is about a hook shank in length. Transfer that to the bend of the hook and tie it in there with a few wraps. Make sure it is right on top of the hook.
  5. Lift the front of the foam and take a number of wraps down the hook shank, and then back to the foam. Bring your thread back to the tie in point, and then make a little waist by wrapping back and forth on the foam for about an eighth of an inch. After doing this, the foam should no longer want to roll on the hook.
  6. Tie in the legs on each side of the waist. Make the back legs go past the foam in the back and be a little shorter in the front. Tie the legs in the length of the waist. You don't want them to stick straight out. Also, don't make the final wraps at the front and back too tight, and the legs will be more able to slant forward and back rather than straight out.
  7. Tie in your hackle at the waist, and take four or so wraps. Tie it down and trim the waste. Make the hackle a little oversized.
  8. Lift the front of the tube up and wrap your thread forward to a couple of eye lengths behind the eye.
  9. Lay the tube down on the shank of the hook, and while stretching it just a tiny bit, tie it down there.
  10. Lift the tube up and wrap your thread to the eye and back, and then tie in a waist at the tie down point.
  11. Tie in your wing material with a couple of wraps at the waist. Use only half as much as you will want for the wing. Make the wing a tad longer in the back than you will eventually want it to be.
  12. Now fold the part of the wing material hanging over the front, back over onto the wing material and tie it all down flush with the back of the waist. This will insure it can't pull out and keep you from having a stub of material, because you didn't have to cut off any excess.
  13. Tie in your hackle and take about four wraps, tie it off and cut off the excess.
  14. Move your thread to the hook shank in front of the foam, and whip finish there. Cut off your thread.
  15. Cut the excess tube off, leaving a bit of a head.
  16. Trim your wing so it is about even with the back of the fly.
  17. Turn the fly over, and cut the hackle on the bottom flush with the body of the fly. That will allow the remaining hackle to act as outriggers, and stop the "Tubular" body from rolling over when the fly is on the water.
  18. Put some head cement on the whip finish and the fly is done.

# LOCAL GUIDES

Fish First  
Chico, CA  
(530) 343-8300

Sierra Stream & Mountain  
Chico, CA  
530-345-4261

**QUAIL LODGE  
LAKE ALMANOR**  
530.284.0861  
29615 Hwy 89/ P.O. Box 87  
Canyon Dam, CA 95923  
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**Ron Leger**  
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rlegerfishcarvings@gmail.com



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<http://chicoareaflyfishers.org>

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