



November 2023 Rooster Tails Newsletter

Message from the Board of Directors

Greetings Rooster Tails!

We hope you and yours are ready for the fall weather and what hopes to be some epic fishing as the lakes turn over and the fish start biting. More and more folks are hitting the water and are bringing home some excellent table fare.

We want to wish you all a wonderful holiday season and hope you find many blessings this year. Remember, we will not have a December meeting so we will see you next year!

Please be advised the **November 20 Crab/Rockfish Combo** trip has been **cancelled** due to lack of interest. See below for more information.

This month's speaker will be Cal Kellogg of [Fish, Hunt Shoot Fishing](#). Cal will be sharing tips on trout fishing in the fall and winter. See below for more details.

We look forward to seeing you on the 17th at the Elks Lodge! Your support keeps the club going and we hope you enjoy our monthly breakfasts and opportunities to share fishing experiences. Feel free to speak with any board member with your comments and or suggestions for future events. Remember, doors to the Elk's Lodge open at 7am, Breakfast begins at 8 and our speaker begins at 9. Fishing reports, Monthly Raffle and fellowship continue after the speaker **CLUB UPDATES**

- 2023 Jackpot Contest closes at the end of November. Be sure to have your entries in by then. A digital photo will help us to display your catch!
- A For Sale table will be set up in the back for members to sell off unwanted fishing gear.
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting - November 13, 2pm, at Lyons Real Estate office (near Mel's Dinner in Auburn). Free pizza provided.
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting - November 17
- NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER
- Rooster Tails Rockfish/Crab Combo Trip - November 20 - CANCELLED -

November 17th Speaker Cal Kellogg — FHS Fishing

Cal Kellogg has been a long time supporter of the Rooster Tails Club and has fished the area waters for many years. [FHS Fishing](#) is the product of two regular guys, Cal Kellogg and Wes Ward, with decades of combined experience in all things fishing as well as media production and publishing. Inspired by the thought of helping trout anglers improve their skills, they developed a simple method of trout fishing using simple gear and simple tactics. Operating out of a small shop all products are assembled and packaged in their local office by hand. In an effort to keep costs down, they don't use fancy packaging or sell any products via retail. Like their fishing method, their business model is simple: provide high quality tackle at a very competitive cost.

You can check out Cal and FHS Fishing [here](#). Be sure to hear Cal's latest tips on catching fall trout at our November 17th meeting at the Elks Club.

Will Fish Tackle Report

by Craig Newton



11/10/23

Winter weather is just around the corner so the time to chase fall trout in higher elevation lakes is growing short. Bowman, French Meadows, Union Valley and other are producing nice rainbows, browns, and lakereels for those willing to brave the cold mornings. Water temperatures are starting to dip into the high 40s so it won't be long before the fish become less active. If you are willing to make the trip to the big lake, crab, rockfish, and blue fin tuna are on tap. Pyramid continues to produce trophy cutthroats. The lake will be turning over soon and that will slow it down up there for a few weeks.

BULLARDS BAR: Kokanee fishing continues to be good for next year's fish. Fish are all over the place depth wise. Anglers should be able to fish with their lead core rigs again as water temps go down.

FOLSOM LAKE: Action for small kings is pretty consistent with a few larger fish mixed in. Kings are averaging 13". Some decent rainbows are being caught as well. Bass action has slowed a bit with cooler temperatures and water quality changes from recent rains.

FRENCH MEADOWS/HELL HOLE: French Meadows has dropped some but there is still plenty of ramp in the water to launch your boat. Reports are that the fall trout fishing is in full swing there. Hell Hole has dropped below the paved ramp. Check conditions of the gravel below the ramp before you drive on it. Access to both of these lakes is still through Georgetown via Wentworth Springs and 11 Pines Rd.

OROVILLE LAKE: The landlock kings are continuing to be caught in Oroville. Like Folsom, they are on the smaller size, about 13". East wall seems to be the place to find them.

SIERRA LAKES: Trout fishing at the upper elevation lakes has been very good. Weather will be the major factor to consider now. Donner, Davis Lake, Stampede, and Jackson Meadows are the prime candidates for late fall high Sierra efforts.

DELTA: Striper fishing has been good once you locate the biters. There are fish scattered throughout the delta with swim bait casters doing very well once the fish are located. Sturgeon fishing has been great in the Pittsburg area. Please pay attention to new sturgeon regulations before you go.

PYRAMID LAKE: The Lake has been producing good numbers of quality LCTs. Many fish over 10lbs and some over 15. In the last week the fish are taking plugs and spoons trolled from 20' to 40'; down on the downriggers. The lake will be turning over soon as surface temperature continues to fall. The seasonal turning of the lake will slow the fishing down for a week or two until the water stabilizes and the patterns reestablish.

NORTH COAST: Crabbing has opened and fishing has been good. Unfortunately the inland rockfish closure has made it more challenging to combine crabbing and rockfishing. The big story off our coast has been the bluefin tuna with anglers landing fish from 70 to over 200 pounds. Fast trolling Nomad Madmacs has been the ticket for most. The tuna are spread out from Monterey to Fort Bragg with many bay area and Bodega Bay boats scoring on BFT. If you are going to give it a try, don't show up to a gun fight with a knife. Your albacore gear will not get the job done! Bring out the big guns to have a chance at landing one of these beasts.



November 20th Saltwater Trip

*****CANCELLED*****

Due to lack of club interest, our November 20 Rock Fish/Crab Trip has been cancelled. Our next salt water trip will be with live bait in SF Bay in April or May 2024. Please feel free to make suggestions for future club outings.

CDFW Restricts Recreational Crab Traps and Delays the Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery to Protect Whales from Entanglement

(This article is taken from the CDFW website. Please click [here](#) for the entire article)

The recreational take of Dungeness crab using crab traps will be temporarily restricted between the Sonoma/Mendocino county line and Lopez Point, Monterey County (Fishing Zones 3 and 4) when the season opens on Saturday, Nov. 4 due to presence of humpback whales and potential for entanglement from trap gear. **Recreational take of Dungeness crab by other methods, including hoop nets and crab snares, is not affected by the temporary trap restriction and is allowed statewide beginning Nov. 4, 2023.** The use of recreational crab traps in Fishing Zones 1, 2, 5 and 6 is also allowed. In addition, a Fleet Advisory has been issued for all Fishing Zones (1-6) for the recreational fishery. The commercial Dungeness crab fishery south of the Sonoma/Mendocino county line was scheduled to open on Nov. 15, 2023, in Fishing Zones 3, 4, 5 and 6. [However, the season opener has been delayed \(PDF\)\(opens in new tab\)](#) in those zones due to presence of [high numbers of humpback whales \(PDF\)\(opens in new tab\)](#).



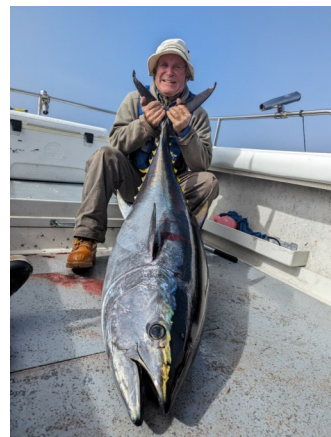
“Large aggregations of humpback whales continue to forage between Bodega Bay and Monterey and allowing the use of crab traps would increase the risk of an entanglement in those fishing zones,” said California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Director Charlton H. Bonham. “We will continue to work with both the recreational and commercial Dungeness crab fisheries to protect whales while working to maximize fishing opportunity. We appreciate the ongoing commitment by both the recreational and commercial fleets and the California Dungeness Crab Fishing Gear Working Group to manage entanglement risk in this iconic fishery.”

(Please click [here](#) for the rest of the article)

Member's Fishing Reports

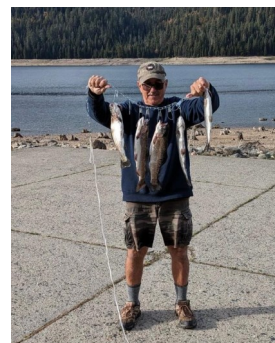
On November 3, Steve Lenheim, Dave Parr, and John Warren fished Pyramid Lake. Trolling from Wizards Cove to Warrior Point produced 5 fish with 3 others escaping. All fish caught were at approximately 35 feet depth with the first three fish being caught on blue/silver spoons and the last two fish landed were on white lures. The five fish were between 17- and 23-inches. All fish were released. Lake was calm. Heard from other people fishing that the south end of the lake was more productive. One boat claimed 17 hookups fishing from Washout to Popcorn Beach.

Tuna fishing has been very productive lately. Heinz Klose, Eric Liske and a friend went fishing out Bodega Bay, 11/3/23, for bluefin tuna. They were able to boat a 120# fish after a 60 minute battle. Here is the results of Heinz's efforts.



* * * * *

Dave Stallions, his brother Rex and buddy Scotty Kramer had a great day at French Meadows lasg week. They caught over 20 fish and some others that did not make it to the boat. Six went home for the table and all others were released. Most fish were in the 15-27" range. Needlefish and Thomas Bouyant lures, tipped with a night crawler, were successful as well as cut plugs. The guys trolled 2mph and were down 10-20'. The picture shows Scotty with 5 of the fish that went home.



Human-Wildlife Conflicts Program - CDFW



(This article is taken from the CDFW website. Please click [here](#) for the entire article)

Vision: To proactively address human-wildlife conflicts and improve wildlife incident responses; to support safe human-wildlife interactions; and to increase understanding, awareness and appreciation of wildlife in California.

As the State's trustee agency for fish and wildlife resources, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife serves as the lead agency charged with helping to resolve human-wildlife conflict, public safety, and depredation.

California is home to the most natural diversity of any state with a human population expected to grow to 50 million by 2050. Most human-wildlife interactions do not escalate to conflict. Learn how to prevent, address, and transform human-wildlife conflicts.

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Human-Wildlife Conflicts Program - CDFW

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Technical Assistance and Incident Reporting

Public Safety Emergency? **Call 9-1-1**

The Wildlife Incidence Reporting (WIR) System is a statewide online reporting system used by CDFW to respond to requests for technical assistance and reports of wildlife incidents and sightings. CDFW staff also uses data logged in the WIR to track reporting trends. CDFW staff can also provide technical assistance by phone, email, mail, or in-person.

See the Human-Wildlife Conflicts Toolkit below for valuable information and resources on how you can help reduce or prevent conflicts.

(Please click [here](#) for the entire article)

Rooster Tails Turkey Tourney Fishing Report

The Rooster Tails Fishing Club Turkey Turney was held Thursday November 9th with 31 Members and Guests signed up to fish Collins Lake. Fishing from the bank turned out to be the most productive for some anglers. Trolling was extremely slow with many boats going skunked for trout. A few incidental crappies were caught while trolling. The weather was clear most of the day, just a little chilly in the morning. Club Member Scott Miller took first Place with the largest single fish by weight. Scott weighed in one massive 7-pound 3-ounce rainbow trout caught trolling and will be awarded the \$ 100 prize.

Runner ups in the largest fish category by weight are:

John Melrose 7 pounds 1 ounce

Eric Liske at 5 pounds 14 ounces

Both of these monsters were caught from the bank with power bait.

Winners in the most weight of 5 trout or less category are ...

- John Melrose 13 pounds 9 ounces
- Eric Liske 7 pounds 15 ounces
- Scott Miller 7 pounds 3 ounces
- Peter Vogt 3 pounds
- Razz Ortiz 1 pound 14 ounces
- Mac Mc Mckendree 1 pound 10 ounces
- Trudy Liske 1 pound 7 ounces



Jonn Melrose - 7#10z



Eric Liske - 5#14oz

Each of which will be awarded a \$ 35-gift certificate for Thanksgiving. Thank you to all those who took part in this event and to Yvette Meador, Bruce Hansen and Shawn Conlan for volunteering to help with the set up and weigh in.



Jonn Melrose and
Peter Vogt



Board of Director
member Yvette
Meador checks in
participants.



Jonn Melrose - 7#10z

2023 Jackpot Contest Closes November 30th

Rooster Tail Members-only in good standing with paid dues and a signed liability waiver form on file may enter the Club's Annual Jackpot Fishing Contest by paying an entry fee of \$20.00 to the Contest Chairman or Club Treasurer. The payment must be made 2 weeks in advance of your entry and any time between the starting and ending contest dates.

No fish-entry will be accepted without a two-week prior entry fee payment. The official contest competition is from January 1 through **November 30** of each calendar year. After the January breakfast meeting, only fish caught within the official contest term qualify for the contest.

Contest cash prizes and recognition certificates will be awarded at a Rooster Tails Fishing Club's monthly meeting. Jackpot entrants that do not have a winning Jackpot Contest fish entry will have a chance to win a proportionate cash prize based on a random drawing 'for-one-that-got-away' at the meeting. Potential random contest winners must be present at the event to receive their prize.

Pick up an entry form at the breakfast meeting or download a copy from the [Rooster Tails Fishing Club Website](http://www.roostertailsfishingclub.org).

ROOSTER TAILS Fishing Club
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
ANNUAL JACKPOT CONTEST

	LENGTH	WEIGHT	WATER	DATE	ANGLER
Kokanee	19 in		New Melones	8-27	Tom Hamada
Landlocked Salmon					
River or Ocean King Salmon					
Striped Bass	29 1/2 inch		Rio Vista	5-11-23	Tom Hamada
Rainbow Trout	23 inch		Almanor	6-13-23	Bill Betts
Brown Trout	19 1/2 inch		Shasta Lake	5-1-23	Tom Hamada
Steelhead					
Lake Trout (Mackinaw)	21 inch		Hell Hole	8-5-23	David Liske
Large Mouth Bass	15 inch		Folsom Lake	5-15-23	Dave Stallions
Catfish					
Shad					
Crappie					
	36 inch		S. F. Bay	5-13-23	Mel Tachibashi

HOW TO BE A BETTER FISHING “BOAT BUDDY”

Go to the Rooster Tails web site at www.roostertailsfishingclub.org and open the password protected **Members Only Information** tab, then click on **Member Roster**, then select the **Active Buddy** List, to contact and coordinate with a fishing Buddy. (Don't know the Password - email to info@roostertailsfishingclub.org). Find out what is a convenient time and place to meet a boat buddy; agree on a fishing site; a departure time and an anticipated time to return home. Ask for a cell phone number to stay in touch while in transit or to confirm launching times arrangements once on site. Be on time.

Agree with the boat owner what tackle to bring; bait (worms, anchovies, sardines, etc.); types of and how many rods/reels (spinning vs. trolling); ice and/or cooler; etc. Don't expect to use the boat owner's tackle without his/her invitation. And to the contrary, do not bring loads of gear, bags and boxes of every possible lure from your fishing inventory. Space on-board is always at a premium and it is the boat owner's prerogative on how to allocate the available space. Always ask what he/she wants you to bring and the species of fish you intend to target.

When on-board, ask where the boat's safety equipment is stored, *if on board at all*... You may want to bring your own PFD, portable marine radio, and a small first aid kit. Always know where PFDs are located on board the boat; location of a throw-cushion/rope for a possible man-overboard incident; where the fire-extinguisher is located; the motor kill switch; and on-board first-aid kit. A brief explanation about the boat's operation is always important.

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HOW TO BE A BETTER FISHING “BOAT BUDDY”

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Some boat owners do not want fishing buddies to steer the boat, operate the electronics including the fish finder/GPS, radio, trolling motor or other controls. Other boat owners expect to have their boat buddies equally share in steering the boat, but within the owner's directions. Boat buddies should always offer to help with the boat's operation and not just sit there fishing and expect the boat owner to completely operate the boat minimizing his/her opportunity to fish. With multiple rods being used, ask if hookups are alternated, or just by assigned rods to a specific angler.

As an invited guest to fish from another angler's boat, treat the boat as you would being invited into your buddies' home. Do not spread your tackle everywhere, or prop rods against gunnels, leave fish-rags on the floor, in the way of the boat's operation, or allow bait-scents, baits, and various assorted tackle-boxes/bags encroaching on his/her to mutually enjoy the fishing trip. Wipe-up beverage spills, fish blood, and related bottom-sludge, try to be reasonably neat. Just being sloppy may be one thing, but ignoring a messy boat may cause safety issues and just keep you from being invited on a future trip.

Don't be secretive of fishing methods, type of tackle being put in the water, bait being used, or special approaches. Boat buddies need to coordinate boat trolling speed, amount of trolling-line being put out, how deep down-riggers are being run, and other issues that affect how a particular lure or bait performs. Too much line out by one angler could cause major tangles in turns or tackle being snagged, or down-rigger-balls being run-aground or lost. Various tackle performs differently at different trolling speeds, e.g. hard-bait run better fast, then a large dodger that puts excessive drag on the pole/reel. Boat buddies should coordinate boat speed for better bait/lure presentations.

Boat buddies seem to always pair-up together trip after trip. The reason is that they are comfortable with comparable and predictable fishing methods, netting abilities, and general attitude towards fishing together. Always offer the boat owner to share in fuel costs, gate entry fees, lost tackle, and other costs for a fun day of fishing.

The Rooster Tails Fishing Club wants you to share your enjoyment of fishing. Be a good fishing boat buddy and apply the suggestions in this article.

Rooster Tails BOD Needs Your Feedback

Rooster Tails Board of Directors currently consists of 8 members including Mike Walker, Yvette Meador, Steve Burgess, Dave Stallions, Bruce Hansen , Gregor Roschitsch, John Warren and Shawn Conlan. As we move through this year and prepare for the next we will need new blood and new ideas to keep the club interesting and plan next years meetings and events. Also, some of us travel and it would help out to have some backup for the breakfast meetings.

The Board meets on the Monday before the breakfast meeting, 2pm at the Lyons Real Estate office, 1900 Grass Valley Highway, Suite 100. This months meeting is on Monday November 13th. If you would like to join us as a guest the meeting normally takes about an hour. We will have pizza at the meeting. Hope to see you Monday.

Rooster Tails Monthly Quote

From *"The Fisherman's Guide to Life - Nine Timeless Principles Based on the Lessons of Fishing"* by Criswell Freeman.

"The first principle of reading water is this: Fish are found at the edges of things."

Charles F. Waterman



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