

# EASTERN SIERRA FOCUS

By CJ Webb - August 2025

Weather has been consistently warm and that changed on the 22nd when it clouded over with a good breeze and gave the Mono basin a good washing. Then on the 23 we got about 4 hours of rain which we badly needed. Another dousing came on the 24, 25<sup>th</sup> and the next two days. Now it looks like we are in for a couple more days of moisture. The new moon has had an effect on conditions at our elevation and as every sliver increases the temperature rises and as it wanes after a full appearance we get wind dropping the temperature and then it repeats. June was the same way with a few short rain flurries. Currently we had another 4 or 5 days of warmer weather than the cloud cover with thunder producing some rain for over four hours on the 23rd.

**Mule Deer Summer Migration** has slowed down but be mindful they are still crossing the highway to get to water. Look for white butts and/or eyes in your headlights when driving. Early morning and dusk are the worst times so please be vigilant and stay alive. Glance left and right along the road edges as they browse the brush along the roadside.

## **FISHING TIP:**

### **How to perk up your nymph game!**

Thin down – Flies, leaders and tippets to reduce any obstruction, enhance presentation and increase your success.

The single fly approach—reduces interference, improves drift and detection, and drives you to cover water more effectively and accurately.

Refine your fly choices and include only your top producing flies, and carry them in more weights and more sizes. If a Perdigon Nymph is your favorite that's, great!. You should have four different sizes, and within each size, six different weights. A simple fly of the correct weight fished properly often outperforms a flawless imitation of an inappropriate weight or size. If you're scared to lose it, it shouldn't be in your box!

Push your boundaries of where you are willing to throw a fly, from tiny pockets in a raging torrent to the skinniest edge riffle, or under the deepest cover. If you carry lots of your confidence flies and master the skill of choosing the right weight for the water depth, you'll have the nerve to push the limits of where you can fish—and you'll catch fish that other people passed by. As an extra bonus, these are often the same spots where big fish hide in pressured waters.

Become a striker. Strike whenever you think a trout might have that fly in it's mouth—even if you don't see anything out of the ordinary. Remember the best fly fisher is well-rounded and has mastered the

fundamentals of many techniques, and knows when and where to implement them.

**Inland Water Fishing Regulations** have changed since 2020, so download the app to see if there are any changes to the waters you frequent.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/regulations>. - Go to Notices: and click on "Quick Guide" to download the app. It tracks your current GPS location and will tell you the regulations of the water where you are standing and regulations for waters within a designated area or approximately a five-mile radius. Take a look, it's pretty thorough. This will probably make the new regulations easier to understand.

## **LOCAL NEWS - Crowley Fish Foundation REQUESTS to Run Again.**



Crowley Fish Foundation (CFF) has come a long way since its first meeting in May 2024. The foundation is composed of an all-star team. It's partnered with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to support DFW in events that need volunteer help, and disperse or collect information. CFF has numerous community events, including regular fly tying clinics that occur in two locations in Bishop, and soon to be added Mammoth Lakes. CFF is partnered with the Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Tribe to work with its youth. Both Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra and Two Wolf Foundation have sought assistance from CFF to take veterans fishing on Crowley Lake. Trout Unlimited, CalTrout, and No Hot Creek Mine have joined forces with Crowley Fish Foundation to protect Hot Creek, a tributary of Crowley Lake, and cherished fly fishery of itself, in an on-going petition to designate Hot Creek as an Outstanding Natural Resource Water. Angler's Atlas is an e-creel application that is teamed up with CFF to attract anglers who fish on Crowley Lake to record catches for data for DFW. Board members of CFF participate in community events including, but not limited to, the Blake Jones Trout Derby, Bishop Paiute Tribe's Earth Day and Spring Market, Kern River Trout Fest, Owens River Annual Clean Up, Rush Creek Annual Clean Up, Mammoth Lakes Fourth of July Parade, and Mammoth Kids Fishing Festival. The foundation runs a great website, thanks to its webmaster Ryan Heavican. And,

the foundation is fully insured to host events. CFF has recently submitted a 1023 application for full 501c3 status to the IRS, and anticipates approval estimated for December 2025. The enthusiasm of the group is contagious. CFF has received numerous donations of money and sweat equity to get standing on its feet. People love CFF. Crowley Fish Foundation has grown immensely in fourteen months, and continues to surge.

Crowley Fish Foundation wants to purchase trout for Crowley Lake and its tributaries. But, they want to do more than that also. CFF wants to introduce the beauty of the region's fishing to the next generation of anglers. While CFF will gladly take any monetary donation now, large or small, the team believes in the importance of taking kids fishing. This was evident, again, on a recent outing that CFF hosted on Wednesday, July 23.

On a beautiful midweek morning, five fishing experts took eight Paiute-Shoshone tribe member kids out on Crowley Lake. Joe Contaldi, Andre Nersesian, Hodges Glass, Shon Eastridge, and Jarett Coons divided up in four boats, to get the kids fly fishing for trout and perch in Crowley Lake. The fishing guides for the day were joined by CFF team members Chris Leonard, Pedro Cecena, and Philip Nguyen who captured video of the morning adventures. Maggie Flaherty, Brianda Hernandez, Miles Lafayette, and Sage Neely of the tribe were present for support supervision. This event was spearheaded by the organization of CFF board member Jarett Coons.

The kids spent three and a half hours on the lake that morning, and had a great time. A few fish were caught and released, and several smiles were visible all morning. It was the first time most of these kids have fished on Crowley Lake.

The entertainment didn't end at the lake. Later that evening, the group reconvened at Bishop's Back Alley Bowl and Grill for dinner. CFF supporter Chad Warrick purchased dinner for the entire group, and also donated ten fly fishing rod, reel, and line combos to the Tribe for disbursement to the kids. Both Turquoise Stone and Peter Charley took home a fly fishing rod combo for their dedication to attending both fishing excursions and fly tying clinics. All the other youth who attended are encouraged to continue the course of learning about fly fishing and fly tying to be rewarded with one of the rods from Mr. Warrick's generous donation.

Crowley Fish Foundation is quite proud of these kids for putting in some work to learn to fly fish. The youth are the future of the sport, and the CFF team is thrilled to be able to assist them.

If you would like to learn more about CFF or make a much appreciated donation, please log onto the website at [www.crowleyfishfoundation.org](http://www.crowleyfishfoundation.org)

### **Legislative News: UPDATE of AB-817**

AB-817: Sport fishing licenses: electronic display: 12-consecutive-month licenses was **Approved by the Governor October 7, 2021. Implementation started January 1, 2023.**

This bill would (until January 1, 2030), authorize the Director of Fish and Wildlife to allow 12-consecutive-month sport fishing licenses to be issued in addition to certain calendar year licenses. The bill would require the Director to provide the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2025, recommendations for increasing fees for all sport fishing licenses to levels that provide adequate resources to fund sport fishing, including all necessary supporting activities, at the department.

I wrote the DFW Director of Communications in Sacramento about the restructuring of fees as written.

The bill would require the director, on or before July 1, 2028, to submit a report to the Legislature evaluating all sport fishing licenses, as provided.

DFW is still not providing an update and I'll have to try another source from our Rep. Kevin Kiley after two more calls to DFW sources. Everyone was gone!!

### **Interesting Item - Recent Survey RE Fishing Population**

A new survey shows that a record 40 million Americans of 16 years and older went fishing in 2022. Published by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the survey means that one in seven of the United States population goes fishing.

Of that total, over 35 million fish in freshwater. In all, anglers fished a total of 785 million days on 463 million fishing trips. In doing so, they spent almost \$100 billion, 37% of which was on trip-related costs. Their equipment expenditure totaled \$40.7 billion, with around 21% of this being spent on rods, reels, tackle boxes, depth finders, flies and lures. 68% of the expenditure went on specialized equipment, such as boats, vans, cabins, etc. In addition, \$22.1 billion (22%) was spent on fishing-related items, such as land leasing, land ownership, memberships, contributions, licenses and permits.

It means that, on average, US anglers spent 20 days fishing, taking an average of 12 fishing trips. Each angler spent \$2,490 on fishing-related expenses. On each trip, the average spend was \$917 per angler at a daily average of \$47 per day.

Although more men than women fished, a substantial number - 12.5 million women - still went fishing in 2022 (10%) of the US's female population aged over 16 years).

33% of USA anglers were over 55 years old, meaning there were 26.7 million anglers under the age of 55.

In all, the 2022 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation showed that 57% of

US residents over the age of 16 took over 1.7 billion trips in 2022 to participate in outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, wildlife watching, recreational boating and target shooting. In doing so, outdoor enthusiasts spent an estimated \$394 billion on equipment, travel, licenses, and fees last year alone. These trips made a combined total of 14 billion days spent in the field, on the water and around the home viewing wildlife, an all-time high.

Service Director, Martha Williams, said, "Time spent in nature is an important part of the human experience and can provide lifelong memories, connections to others, healthy activities, and a sense of rest and healing. These numbers demonstrate how important our public lands and wild places are not just for the well-being of people who enjoy them, but as an economic engine that provides thousands of jobs and sustains businesses, economies and communities through the nation".

#### **CDFW 'Buy a Stamp' to help a Game Warden**

Officials at the CDFW are urging anglers to contribute to a Warden Stamp Program that helps game wardens and the enforcement of fish-and-wildlife laws.

According to the CDFW, purchase of the \$5 stamp will "procure vital equipment, protective gear, and training for wildlife officers and enhance the department's K-9 Program." Information on how to make a donation is available at: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/wardenstamp>

#### **Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Stocking**

updated trout releases will be on their web-site (<http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FishPlants/>) or call their specific region (Inland Desert at 855.887.1275).

NOTEWORTHY: - The Department has just stocked 50 large fish in Big and Little Virginia and Trumbull Lake. The consistency of stocking this summer has been great.

#### **GUIDE'S HINT - Loop Knots with Hopper Patterns:**

Gary LaFontaine is one of my fishing heroes. A deep thinker and innovator who have helped countless fly fishers. One of my favorite tips from Gary was using a loop knot for large dry-fly patterns. Anglers usually think "streamers" when discussing loop knots, but Gary realized years ago, large dry-flies move more naturally when tethered to a loop knot versus a standard clinch. I (George Daniel) know of several excellent western and Midwestern fly-fishing guides who use nothing but a loop knot when fishing large dry-fly patterns, so learn this knot if you plan to fish larger terrestrial patterns this season.

#### **AT THE BENCH:** Sybai New Sparkle Hair

The fibers are hanked and they flash kind of clear as

there are a few different materials in there. In the silver, you can see fine holographic strands of twisted silver and flat fine pearl. Thoughtfully made more suitable than similar sparkle I've handled. The mixture/blend of materials is more obvious in the Red Black pack.

Sparkle hair ties in easily and is sort of neutral, and has a light tendency to stick to poly bags. It behaves well under thread and stays put. It cuts neatly and can be used mixed or with a few strands of a natural hair, and great with a few strands of marabou.

Hanks are about 7 inches long and the bundle is generous and fairly limp making small flies a greater possibility. Sybai stockists.

#### **HAIR STACKER WITH CLASS - Renzetti Evolution**

Standard and Magnum hair stackers.

Wider, smoother, heavier and sits nicely on any desk. The tubes are large, about one-and-a-half to double the diameter of my stacker and would suit deer-hair stackers aimed at spinning deer hair.

Place the stacker on the prepared hair sitting ready to be fed in, turn the stacker on its side and slide off the base. The tips are nicely aligned and exposed. As with most conventional stackers the base has a lip a few millimeters from the bottom, on which the tube rests. \$32 from Renzetti

**ROCK CREEK LAKE** – Lake has been stocked regularly and no report for the lake but try the same arsenal you would use for Virginias and/or Saddlebag as the elevations are similar. Drag out your cache and tie on a large bugger or leech pattern and toss on a dropper about 18" below the big bug. It's been up and down with flies due to the amount of other items being used, as in most of the Sierra lakes this summer.

**UPPER OWENS** – Flows are 65cfs as of 8/28. With the water coming out of Grant Lake (42 cfs), the silt is getting flushed out of the tunnel, and the water quality is improving fast. Water temperature has fluctuated between the thunder storms, but seems to have leveled off from the last stretch of activity. The hatches were picking up and you may see more activity as the day wears on. Try midges the morning and caddis and Trico are improving with a few PMD's late morning.

#### **CROWLEY LAKE**

Recreational Advisory Issued at Crowley Lake due to Potential Harmful Algal Bloom August 26, 2025, 12:03pm. DWP has asked everyone to stay out of the water at Crowley Lake after tests are confirmed of the presence of harmful algal blooms. LADWP is working directly with the Regional Board and has

posted signs with a recreational advisory of "Danger" have been posted at the Marina and Hilton Creek Drainage. Thank you and Stay Safe!

**HOT CREEK** - Flow is 42cfs of 8/28. Hot creek flows are staying about the same and not too much has happened since my last report. Hoppers are still going strong and landing on the water during the windy parts of the afternoon. Who says wind is bad for fly fishing? If you want you can still put a #18-20 dropper underneath on 6x; small caddis pupas, small flashback pheasant tails, zebra midges, and #20 robo pheasant tails just to name a few to use depending on the time of day. The caddis hatch still comes off from the afternoon on, partridge caddis and hot creek caddis on 6x flouro does the trick as long as you have absolutely no drag. In mid-morning a trico hatch comes off, if you think you are doing everything right and not doing well among rising fish, try switching to 7x with this hatch. Keep it light and keep it accurate! Have fun - Sierra Trout Magnet.

**CONVICT LAKE** – No report but traffic has lessened dramatically. Always try large dark streamers in olive, dark Burgundy, red/black leech patterns and Pistol Pete's in dark colors. Work the inlet and outlet and watch for any surface activity especially near the southwest corner. The only fly I would use would be a large BH woolly bugger in dark colors with or without a blade. Also, try a two fly rig using an Olive Crystal Woolly Bugger with a bead.

### **MAMMOTH LAKES - No report**

**Reds Meadow Road** schedule from August 28 to September 1: Open Thursday at 8 pm through Monday at 11pm.

### **SAN JOAQUIN - Flow is 22cfs as of 8/30.**

The flows are still good and water temperatures are 55-65 degrees. Due to construction, access to the San Joaquin is limited to 6 am Thursday until 11 pm Sunday through the end of August. Hatches have been weak but fishing has been good, especially the evening Mayfly hatches. It would appear that there's a lot of catch and keep going on so with the lack of stocking the fish numbers are down. Dries: Stimulator #10-18, Parachute Adams #16-22, Elk Hair Caddis #14-22, and Ant Patterns #14-18. Nymphs: Pheasant Tail #14-20, Hares Ear #12-20, Zebra Midge #20-22, Copper John #14-18 and Prince Nymph #10-20. Streamers: Black Woolly Bugger #8-12 and Slump Buster #8-12

Road is closed no date set for reopening due to restructuring the road.

**JUNE LOOP** – Gull or Silver Lake would be a good choice this time of year now that the traffic has dwindled. Weather was unsteady for a few days, then clear and warm for a few especially since the moon is incoming but there is a lot of smoke still hanging around. The superstition is that fish feed at night during full moons. Can't dispute that but I do know it does not improve the catch at night. Last week was warm on and off with lots of bugs in the bushier areas along Silver Lake's west shoreline and the west end near the greenery. Try dark Grey Ghosts, top water dries and some midges along the lake edges. This is an excellent place to perfect your casting toward bushy areas either with a fast roll-cast or a steeple cast.

**RUSH CREEK ANNUAL CLEANUP** - September  
Phone [760 648 7525](tel:7606487525) for details if you wish to help.

**LUNDY LAKE** – Resort will probably close between late September and October 15th. Small midges always work in the ponds beyond the resort as always an offer hours of fun, but try large buggers in black or olive or a two tone bead head near any bushy areas near the water. They are family owned and operated and working under a few tenuous situations. Try some hoppers and/or large black ant patterns and definitely Craig Matthews's special Caddis if you wander around his web-site.

**VIRGINIA LAKES** – Has been seen every fly possible, except for a few anglers secret fly's hitting the water. Top water; sub-surface with and without droppers but most used flies have been searching patterns with midges and a lot of bubble/fly action as well. Bring your arsenal and get ready for some exceptional action. But watch out for "jig" users, they are using 7 to 8 foot rods and can cast a mile. Hatches has decreased but still happening even with the fluctuation of temps for the last week during the storms. My choice would be a BWO size 16 Dry parachute. Or, para black elk hair caddis just prior to the sun hitting the water, and watch the surface change. Of course my favorite time of day is when the water is silvery and the bats are "bugging" in the air.

**TRUMBULL LAKE** - has produced some nice "hunks" throughout the summer and has been fished heavy at times. Same for the Virginias, except the flies need to have a parachute in the more shallow areas. DFW has stocked throughout this month and reports are good with baby boy hoppers, Rickard's nymphs and assorted dries.

**BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR** – Try fishing the west shore and cast toward the dam, but there hasn't been a lot of action due to the temperature of the water. Check with Ken's for the latest report. The lake may be getting ready



to turn-over due to the heat prior to the storms. Maybe all the new moisture has cooled it down a bit.

**EAST WALKER** – The flow on the East is about 88cfs 8/30. The fishing has gotten a bit tougher up there, mainly due to the heat lately. We've had some good reports from anglers fishing early in the morning, from say 7 to 10 or 11 then it just gets too warm and puts too much stress on the fish to be on the water much past that. The night time temperatures have been in the 40's most nights so that has seemed to help the overall picture quite a bit. When the sun starts to go down in the evening the fish seem to be getting happy again each day and there's been some decent dry action at that time of the day. In the mornings the streamer action has been good with Sculpzilla, dead drift crayfish, Ziwi, Dali Lama, as well as some nymphs like buckskin caddis, z-wing caddis, Fox's Poopah, Perdigon, zebra midge and Copper John. Ken's report.

**HONEYWELL POND** – We just had a couple reports from the pond this week, the weeds are definitely trying to take over but there are a couple areas where they're not too bad and the fishing has been pretty good. Mostly leech and soft hackle action though there have been some good fish caught with both adult and nymph damsel flies. Not sure how much longer the clear water will hold out but we'll keep you up to date on that as best we can. Ken's Sporting Goods.

**SCEIRINE RANCH** - We're still getting some very good reports from the ranch lately with anglers reporting good action with streamers in the morning and some good dry/dropper action later in the evening. We're promoting the half day sessions lately, either in the am or later in the pm so the fish can have a bit of a rest during the heat of the day. If you wanted to fish a full day we'd recommend taking a lunch/nap break midday and returning later in the evening for some good dry and/or dry/dropper action.

The trespass fees for the ranch have been updated as of April 24, 2025 to \$100 for a half day per angler and \$125 for a full day per angler. Anglers are still limited to 4 per day. Anglers who booked time on the ranch calendar prior to April 24, 2025 will still be charged at the old price of \$75 per half day and \$100 per full day. 100% of the trespass fees go directly to the ranch, cash is preferred. If you need to use a credit/debit card a 3% administration fee will be charged.

**KIRMAN** – We haven't heard any news from Kirman lately though I'm sure there has been some anglers hoofing it up there to give it a go. I'd expect if everything is working right for you while up there you

could expect to catch 2 or 3 fish per day, it's gonna be some work but there are still some fish up there and they've gotta eat! I'd be packing some stillwater nymphs, mini leeches, bunny leeches, scud and maybe some seal buggers. Report provided by Ken's.

**WEST WALKER - 66 cfs as of 8/30** We've still been getting quite a few good reports from the West this past week with anglers reporting the best action in the Canyon along Hwy 395 up closer to the town of Walker and some decent action in the Pickle Meadows area off of Hwy 108. Fly anglers can fish throughout the day with hopper dropper rigs and have good action as long as they're sneaky enough.

## **CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife**

### **CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife 2021 Regulations:**

Please provide comments to these changes for any water you feel would be detrimental to the resource. They need your input in order to make informed decisions on all these waters. East Walker needs some adjustment, so please talk to someone in DFW and ask them why they were changed to the current status.

Every person or agency recommending that regulations be added, amended, or repealed must submit a petition to the Commission at the site listed: (<https://fgc.ca.gov/Regulations/Petition-for-Regulation-Change>) using this petition form. You can contact their office to see when the next meeting will be held to submit regulation changes on time and whatever is on the books today can be changed. Also include your comments to Governor Newsom at: (<https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/>). Here is the Executive Director's contact information: Melissa Miller-Henson - [fgc@fgc.ca.gov](mailto:fgc@fgc.ca.gov) (916) 653-4899 or (916) 653-7229.

NOTE: You must fill out the form in its entirety and reference the statutory or constitutional authority of the Commission to take the action requested (see page 2, item number 2) and without this they will disregard your petition.

### **Trout in the Classroom 25-26**

New submission dates and registration links for egg deliveries and teacher trainings on the TIC website <https://wildlife.ca.gov/CAEP/R5>. The last teacher training will be on Sunday 11/23/25. Also, once again all teacher Application Forms (CDFW 772 Forms) are now online and can be found on the main CAEP page.

**Fall 2025 Trout Session Application Deadline:  
September 14, 2025**

**Winter 2025 Trout Session Application**

## **Deadline, December 14, 2025**

### **11th Annual Owens River Clean Up**

The 11th Annual Owens River Clean Up is scheduled for **Saturday, November 1, 2025**. The event starts at 8:00 AM at Pleasant Valley Campground.

- **Date:** Saturday, November 1, 2025
- **Time:** 8:00 AM
- **Location:** Pleasant Valley Campground, on the east side of the metal footbridge
- **Organizer:** Chris Leonard at [11053feet@gmail.com](mailto:11053feet@gmail.com)
- **What to bring:** Gloves are recommended.

### **Fly-Fishing Apps**

**onWATER.com** App provides boundaries that are found on maps, but now they're on an app so you can explore your water with confidence.

**It's Your Water...Explore It** - Everything you need to plan your trip, explore your water and relive your experience. Plus we're constantly adding rivers and updating info. From your laptop to your phone it's like having a seasoned guide at your side.

**Know Before You Go** - Whether you're planning a fly fishing destination trip, just getting out for a day or exploring water on the app instead of working, all the things you need are right at your fingertips.

**Detailed River Maps and Real Time Data** - Locate access points, boat ramps, camping, parking, and know the distance between them, so you never miss a take-out or honey hole again. Plus current river flows and weather, everything you need to know is in this app. And you won't have to fold it up after you glance at it.

**Public and Private Land Boundaries** - Stream access laws and public land overlays help you plan where to fish and eliminate the worry that you may be on private property (onWater is for the angler that likes to fish a lot and not make waves).

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**Local Fishing Reports and Fly Shops** - Connect with local fly shops that serve the area you're exploring. Get current fishing reports, hot flies, stream flows, weather and more. It's your one-touch guide to all the local experts.

**Catch and Relive** - Snap a quick photo of your catch before releasing it, and add it to your trip log. Uploading the photo also captures the river, flow and weather. Then archive by trip, water, date or other categories. Add trip notes like the fly used, GPS coordinates and how much bigger your fish was compared to your fishing buddy's. \$3.99/mo. or \$39.99/yr.

### **"Fish Head Nervous Water "Apps, \$6.99 iPhone and Android**

Not only the best app for steelhead rivers, but surf, and

also helpful in most any trout-fishing situation around the country. It has a river directory with flows and where and when to find the best windows of action. It's handy when you're actually packing to go fishing; it's quick, organized with the most pertinent information available.

**Orvis Fly Fishing Green Mountain** - Digital, iPhone, Android is a grand-daddy of fly fishing apps that is free and packed with tons of general interest fly-fishing news, advice, discussion and entertainment you'll never be able to digest it all. It has Tom Rosenbauer's podcasts, casting videos for every stream, flats, or surf situation; knot -tying instruction, fishing reports, up -to-date news feeds, fly pattern descriptions and recommendations with built-in links so you can buy flies you're interested in. It's sort of geared toward beginners, but its solid information and we could all use a little tune-up now and again. Loren Elliott

### **The Pocket Fisherman by Magic Mobile**

This app will help you find out more about the specific species of fish, as well as regulations and records of 49 Continental states regarding fishing in their deep waters. The app also comes with a GPS map that tracks the nearest tackle shops and marinas. You can easily identify the fish by either searching for its name or looking at the gallery of fish images. It's the most comprehensive fisherman app so far as it comes with a summary of each type of fish, description, appearance, weight, natural habitat, and its average length.

### **CalTrans Crestview Rest Stop has reopened.**

**CalTrans Highway work along US 395** – Check the District 9 CalTrans web-site for current status. There is a list of work that will be ongoing. Here is a link for more information. [D9PublicInfo@dot.ca.gov](mailto:D9PublicInfo@dot.ca.gov)

### **Mono County:**

One-way controlled traffic at various locations from 2 mi south of the Jct. of SR 108 /at Burcham Flat Rd/ to the Jct. of SR 108 (Mono Co) from 0700 hrs to 1700 hrs Monday thru Friday thru 8/1/25 - Due to construction and they are still there as of 8/28/25 putting up fencing between the poles on both sides of the curve.

**MONO COUNTY** — With the installation of new light standards along the highway, Caltrans today announced the completion of the Conway Ranch Shoulders Project on U.S. 395 from State Route 167 to just north of Conway Ranch Road near Mono Lake.

“The Conway Ranch Shoulders Project is another example of how Caltrans is putting people first to improve the lives of those who rely on this critical roadway,” said District 9 Director Ryan Dermody.

“With new lighting and wider shoulders, this project continues Caltrans’ commitment to increasing safety on our highways.”

The \$8.3 million project widened the embankment and shoulders to eight feet in both directions. This additional space provides more room for drivers applying snow chains in the winter months and gives errant drivers more recovery room or a place to safely pull over at the foot of Conway Summit. Other safety enhancements and features of this project included:

- The addition of 12” rumble strips. One half mile extension of the northbound chain-up area. Installation of lighting systems for the expanded chain-up area.

- Application of 0.6’ layer of hot mix asphalt.

- Replacement of culverts and traffic signs.



**Rock Creek Pavement Project** – On U.S. 395 from just north of Lower Rock Creek Road to 1.3 miles south of South Landing Drive near the community of Crowley Lake, crews continue to rehabilitate the pavement and add turn pockets and acceleration lanes to the Upper Rock Creek Road/Owens Gorge Road intersection. The median at the intersection near Tom’s Place remains closed. Businesses in Tom’s Place are open and can be reached using Upper Rock Creek Road. Traffic has shifted to the outside lane and shoulders to allow crews to work on the inside lane and median. Access to Owens Gorge Road is available with traffic control. For more information about the project and its detours, visit [Upper Rock Creek Road Closure, Caltrans](#).

**MONO COUNTY** — Drivers will soon experience improved road conditions on U.S. 395 in Mono County near Lee Vining as fog chip sealing on the roadway begins Monday, August 25. The \$2 million Rush Creek Chip Seal Project will rejuvenate, seal, and protect the pavement.

Fog chip sealing is a multi-step pavement preservation process designed to prevent raveling, hold aggregate in place, and extend the lifespan of the roadway. Crews will chip seal the pavement

from 0.3 miles south of Old West Portal Road to 0.2 miles south of Utility Road.

A fog chip seal applies thin layers of liquid asphalt and crushed rock chips to protect the pavement from water damage and degradation caused by vehicles. This technique offers a cost-effective method to address minor issues like the loss of aggregate and drying out, which are typical causes of roadway damage.

American Pavements System was awarded the contract for the Rush Creek Chip Seal Project. Work is scheduled for Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. There are 25 working days scheduled for this project.

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**SESPE FLYFISHERS**  
Ventura College PAC



[sespeflyfishers.org](http://sespeflyfishers.org)



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**STARGAZERS** - There's a Black Moon on the rise, but if that phrase conjures a similar Creedence Clearwater Revival lyric in your head, relax: This one isn't bound to take your life.

A so-called Black Moon isn't an astronomical term, but it is a mysterious nickname that, confusingly, could refer to a couple different lunar scenarios.

The buzz right now centers on an event (or non-event, depending on how you think of it) that happened Aug. 23. When an astronomical season, which is about three months long, includes four "new moons" rather than three, the third one is sometimes called a Black Moon.

This happens about once every 33 months. Before you reach into the back of your closet to dust off a telescope or binoculars, know that there's really nothing to see here: The moon will seem to vanish into the night. The true benefit of a Black Moon is perhaps the accessibility of everything else in space smoother, heavier. These are conventional hair stackers. See you on the water ! cj