



# The Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc.

Educate ~ Entertain ~ Enhance

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## Fishing the Klamath River with Jerry Lampkin

- Fishing the Klamath River for salmon and steelhead
- July 12th—Rooster Tail Day on the Klamath with Jerry
- Custom state-of-the-art 23' Rogue Jet boat
- Klamath River flows 263 miles

The multi-talented Rooster Tail Fishing Club member and Pro River Guide, Jerry Lampkin invites all members and their guests to a special presentation at the third Friday breakfast meeting on June 16th to share his experiences on the Klamath River. Jerry has been fishing the Klamath for salmon and steelhead for over 25 years and brings with him a unique perspective about the river you will want to hear. Jerry and his wife Sherry will be available to fisher men and women interested in fishing the 'Springer Salmon Run' during the week of July 10 - 14. Jerry has set aside Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, as Rooster Tail Day and will meet with members and guests to provide the latest fishing information. Sherry will provide information about the area accommodations, site seeing trips, and coordinate fishing outings with Jerry.

Jerry's clients enjoy the luxury of fishing from his custom state-of-the-art 23' Rogue Jet boat equipped with the latest electronics and creature-comforts. In addition to, use of quality rods, reels, and tackle, Jerry goes out of his way to teach his clients on techniques and strategy for using them. You can find out more about this talented guide by visiting his web site at <http://tngmotorsports.com>.

The Klamath is special among many rivers in California. It is only second by out-flow to the Sacramento River and flows 263 miles through Oregon and northern California emptying into the Pacific Ocean. It drains an extensive watershed of almost 16,000 square miles from both states.

Unlike most rivers, the Klamath begins in the high desert and flows toward the mountains carving a path through the rugged Cascade and Klamath mountains before reaching the sea. The scenery and wild life are varied and spectacular. The area is a nature lover's dream and a panacea for photographers.

*For more information about the Klamath River—see page 4*



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**August 18**  
Annual Table Top Swap Meet  
Rooster Tails Breakfast

### Calendar of Events

**June 4—Picnic in the Park**  
\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*

**June 16**  
Rooster Tails Breakfast  
Jerry Lampkin, TNG Motorsports

**July 21**  
Rooster Tails Breakfast  
James Netzel, Tightlines Guide Service

### June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## You fought! You fought! And you lost that tournament winning striper!

You've fished the best tides, you've landed some nice fish in the past but are still looking for that tournament winner and you get a solid whack on a sub-surface swimming plug...your line melts off the spool...you can't remember if you "reset" your drag after the last fish...so in a desperate move you tighten the drag... the line goes slack... the line parted or the plug pulled loose.... sound familiar?



### Reason #4: Pumping in the fish...

OK your fish is whipped; she's laying out there, now what? Slowly, methodically "pump" the rod applying pressure between the 1:00 and 3:00 positions, *NEVER*, reel if the drag is paying out line, this will lead to twisted line, tangles and lost fish, lift the rod from 3:00 to the 1:00 position, reel down, keeping slight pressure on the fish, if the weight of the fish makes the drag slip while you are "pumping" the fish, slight

### THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE REASONS WHY LARGE STRIPED BASS ARE LOST...

**Reason #1: Too little line on the spool**, this is probably the main reason that large fish are lost, all spools should be filled to 1/8 of an inch from the lip of the spool, having less than that affects the drag in several ways, **(A)** by having too little line, the starting drag is increased from what the factory designed it to be, a violent strike often ends in a broken line because the drag cannot slip as designed unless too loose, **(B)** the running drag is affected because the drag coefficient *INCREASES* as the spool diameter *DECREASES*, often exposing any weakness in the system, usually in the form of a erratic, jerky drag or broken line...

**Reason #2: Improper drag settings**, how many people really know how much drag tension they have versus the breaking strength of the line? Set all drags with a spring scale, 1/4 the breaking strength of the line is the recommended setting by most line and reel manufactures, this leaves a solid safety margin, some anglers go as high as 1/3, some anglers prefer to "thumb" the spool on a "runaway" fish, if you feel that you need a little more pressure on the fish... To do this, your index finger can be *LIGHTLY* applied to the edge of the spool to add additional drag, thus preventing 'fooling around' with your original drag setting on a running fish; same applies to using your thumb on a conventional reel, but you must make sure you don't allow your thumb to get pulled into the cross brace...it hurts!

**Reason #3: Rod position**, some anglers fail to use the rod as a tool for fighting a fish, if a fish makes a long run, keeping the rod at about 1:00 position will maintain maximum pressure and also give a "spring like" cushion to the line, once the fish is close to the boat the rod should be lowered to the 2:00 position to relive some of the pressure, if the fish should make a surge, drop the rod tip (maintaining slight pressure, this is called bowing to a fish, a tactic also used for "jumpers") pointing the rod at the fish, as the fish gets further away bring the rod tip up to maintain control...

finger pressure to the spool with an 'educated' finger will provide the needed resistance to get the fish close...if the fish makes a sudden surge, point the rod right at it, this will give you the best chance of keeping the fish from breaking the line..

### TYPES OF FIGHTS:

Not all striped bass fight the same; they have personalities... that's what makes them great! **Screamers**, the name speaks for itself, you set the hook and they *SCREAM!* Often taking 50 -75 yards at a run, fish in the 38-45lb class seem most prone to this; they make several long powerful runs and tire themselves out... **Kamikazes**: these fish are nuts, probably the hardest fish to land, these fish tend to be in the 20-35lb range, they are wild and crazy, they'll scream off, turn and run at you, requiring both a good drag and a fast retrieve to take up the slack, they often times will do several about faces requiring quick reflexes, steady nerves and a perfectly functioning drag. The **Bull-Dogs**: these are usually the "Big-uns", 45lbs and up, most have been hooked before, they don't burn themselves on long sizzling runs, they head out to sea slow and steady, turn, slow deliberate circles, roll on the line, shake their heads violently, rub bottom and look for structure to foul the line, then use their big broom like tails to dig deep or slash the surface, all the while rolling, smashing and shaking their heads, steady rod pressure is a must, bowing (pushing the rod tip towards the fish) is critical when one of these brutes rolls on a line close up, these fish often win their freedom with these tactics, angler awareness, prepared equipment and a good deal of luck are needed to put the brakes on a trophy striper...

**JUST A REMINDER...** Let mama-stripers and her 'big-ins' go and let them do their thing, take a quick photo and put them back in the water as quickly as you can. Other than bragging to your friends that you just killed a big striper does nothing to enhance you as a fishing-legend or to perpetuate the future of the species... **BTW** they are not good to eat anyway and probably contain more Placer-mining-mercury than the 18-inchers! Good Luck!

## Rooster Tails Members-Only Striped Bass Tournament, Wednesday, June 21st

Striper anglers give their favorite fishing spots and waterways descriptive names which most often you will not find on Delta maps or charts. A certain spot on the Sacramento River where the high-tension electrical power lines cross over the river and become the predominant feature becomes "The Power Lines" as a fishing hot spot.

Another good fishing spot near Isleton near where the gates are located to the city landfill area is simply called "The Dump Gate." Still another place on the San Joaquin River where long ago there was a sounding board for the paddle-wheeler captains to bounce the sounds of their steam whistles to help them be sure of their location on the waterway now becomes "The Sounding Board," even though there has not been a sounding board located there in decades. When communicating with other boats on the Delta, you can determine their location by referencing the following list.

**Barges, The.** If you leave the Stucco House and head west, in a few minutes you'll be in the San Joaquin and at the barges. These are gravel barges that Dutra Dredging moors near Light 25. This is also a bait fishing area and I would suggest trying your luck on the upriver side of the barges in 10 to 13 feet of water. *Jon Garcia*

**Big Cut.** Is the waterway in the area between Ryer Island and Simmons Island (the mainland). Also see Little Cut and The Cut. *Dale Gillespie*

**Clam Bed, The.** It is located on the corner just after Daus Cliff Haus 1 mile from the Rio Vista Bridge on the east side of the Sacramento River. There is a little park (fee) that has a couple of picnic tables and offers access to the clam beds in the river. You may clam there, and catch stripers and sturgeon. *Barbara Long*

**Century Plant, The.** This is huge cactus plant about 20 ft. in circumference and 10 ft. tall (it also can have a huge flower), on the riverbank about 2 miles above the Isleton Bridge. Good fishing for stripers and sturgeon is nearby, especially in the fall. *Barbara Long*

**Dairy, The.** From Threemile Slough at the Sacramento River. Heading north toward Rio Vista. The Dairy is an area located near Light 26. From just north of this light to just south of it you can drift live minnows, troll with your favorite worm-tailed broken-back Rebel or drop the hook and bait fish. When fishermen refer to the Dairy they're usually talking about the east or red light side of the channel. *Jon Garcia*

**Daus Cliff Haus.** Is 1 mile above the Rio Vista Bridge on Highway 160 going north on the east side of the Sacramento River. You can anchor your boat over the clam bed here and catch stripers and sturgeon. Be careful that the tide does not go out and leave you stranded until the next high tide. *Barbara Long*

**Decker Island.** Is located on the east side of the Sacramento River just downstream of Threemile Slough.

**Dump Gate, The.** It is across the river from Vieira's Resort. To get there by car, you must go through Isleton on Highway 160, cross over



*Launch at safe-light from multiple well-maintained boat ramps at Brannan Island State Park in the heart of the California Delta. The following is a list of Delta fishing Striped Bass fishing holes. Set your VHF Marine Radio to Channel 68 while fishing to stay in touch with Rooster Tail Members and other Delta anglers.*

the Isleton Bridge and turn left. You are there when you get to the end of the road and must cross over the island to get to Steamboat Slough. Great fishing for stripers and sturgeon. *Barbara Long*

**Firing Line, The.** Is located on Montezuma Slough

**Fleet, The.** (See "Mothball Fleet.")

**Grain Elevator, The.** Is located in Miner Slough 2 miles south of Arrowhead Harbor. From the confluence of the Deepwater Channel at Light 50 go north in Miner Slough 3 miles. *Heidi Fonss*

**Horseshoe Bend.** Is located at Decker Island on the Sacramento River. This waterway is located on the "inside of Decker Island" on the east bank of the river and actually is the original route of the river before the channel was dug. Sometimes it is referred to as the

"Old River." Generally, fishing is less favorable here than it is on the channel side of Decker, but anglers find refuge here when the westerly winds make it uncomfortable out in the channel. *Jon Garcia*

**Little Cut.** Is the area behind Freeman Island and Snail Island, beginning about at the "Duck Club," which is on the tip of Dutton Island. *Dale Gillespie*

**Little Honker Bay** is up Montezuma Slough, before Collinsville and on most maps. You need to fish on the West side and in the cut in about 18' of water. Incoming tides seem to be the best. *Les Tjaden*

**Lost Slough** is one serious place to catch Bass all during the year, and when the Stripers are running you can find a few lurking around there. We call it "The Kitchen" because you can go in there and come out of there with a nice limit of Bass, Catfish, Blue Gill, and Stripers. There are two legs to travel down, one is on the left as you come out of the Meadows and the other to the Right that leads you down to Highway 5. A lot of Boats tie up in that area on weekends and there are a few Houseboats that are lodged there throughout the year. There is only one time of the year that you really have to be careful and that is in the Summer (End of June and most of July) when the Moss Pads grow thick. You can use the Plastic Frogs for some serious Top Water action but it can get rough trying to navigate through the muck. Other than that it is really one of the better places to fish on the Delta. *Justin Silva*

**Mothball Fleet.** (Also referred to as "The Fleet.") Is a reserve fleet of former military and maritime vessels stored at anchor in Suisun Bay, upstream of the Martinez Bridge on west side of the Bay. Most consider The Fleet area to be from the bridge to roughly Roe and Ryer islands. Anglers anchor nearby to fish for sturgeon and striped bass. Use caution, do not fish close to the ships, anchor solidly with plenty of rode, and definitely do not anchor in a position where you can drift in between the ships.

**Old River, The.** Generally, the section of the Sacramento River from where the lower end of Steamboat Slough feeds into the Sacramento upstream to where Steamboat Slough forks off the river is referred to as The Old River — not to be confused with Old River itself, which forks off the upper San Joaquin River near Lathrop. In this section The Old River passes by Locke, Walnut Grove, Ryde, and Isleton.

**Striper Bass Tournament—continued from page 3**

**Patio, The.** From The Peacock, continue up the San Joaquin River, to Light 35 green on Santa Clara Shoal. Look to the northeast and you will see a single tree on the levee of Twitchell Island. You are now at The Patio. Bait fish the Twitchell Island side of the San Joaquin and anywhere between this tree and Light 35. Trollers also do very well close to the Twitchell Island shore. *Jon Garcia*

**Peacock.** Going to Peacock from The Barges, we head north or up river on the San Joaquin near Light 30. As soon as you pass the entrance to Threemile Slough, at Light 29, look off your starboard bow for the first set of tule berms. These are just off the north end of Bradford Island. Troll very close to the riverside of these tules with broken-back Rebels for stripers. When you get to the end of the tules turn around and do it again. *Jon Garcia*

**Power Lines, The.** Are located on the Sacramento River at the downstream end of Decker Island. Two sets of electrical high-voltage, overhead lines cross the river on Sherman Island near Light 14 and Light 16. Generally speaking anywhere under or near these power lines and from one side of the river to the other is a great place to drop the hook and soak some bait. Many decent-size stripers come out of here as well as some lunker sturgeon. *Jon Garcia*

**Quarry, The.** (Also called The Sand Pile) is located on Decker Island. About halfway between the north end of Decker Island and Light 18 on the Sacramento River, you will see an active sand quarry on Decker Island. There is a small run-down landing on the beach here and straight out from this point you will notice the water go from 25 feet deep up to approximately 15 feet and then drop again to 25-plus feet in the channel. This first section from the old landing to the 15-foot depth is known as the Quarry to most fishermen. *Jon Garcia*

**Sand Pile, The.** (See “Decker Island” and see “The Quarry.”)  
**Sounding Board, The.** Is located on the Stockton Deepwater Channel  
**Stucco House, The.** Is located on False River about half way between Fisherman’s Cut and the San Joaquin River and on the south end of Bradford Island. It’s easy to spot as it’s the only house in this area. *Jon Garcia*

**Tennessee’s Spot.** A spot across the Sacramento River from Isleton. From the main part of town, you go north, cross over the Isleton Bridge, turn left and drive down river until you see a rusty-red colored smoke stack sitting on the levee near the launching ramp across the river. You can drive down on the bank of the river or under trees if you are lucky to find some shade — that’s T’s spot. Drop a line in and get either stripers or sturgeon. *Barbara Long*

**The Cut.** Refers to Suisun Cut, which is the area between Ryer and Roe Islands and their shoals. Suisun Cut runs between Suisun Slough and Montezuma Slough. It can be found on the charts.

**Three Trees.** This site is just past Duck Island RV Park on Highway 160 south of the Rio Vista Bridge, on the east side of the Sacramento River. When you are on the water, if you line up between what looks like 3 trees and the launch ramp on the Rio Vista side in about 12 feet of water you can get a sturgeon. *Barbara Long*

**Turning Basin, The.** Is located at the Stockton Deepwater Channel at the Port of Stockton. This is a wide area a couple hundred yards downstream of the I-5 overpass and is the area in which tugboats help nudge freighters into and out of their slips and turn them around for exit.

**Windmill, The.** It is above the Isleton Bridge at the Lopes Ranch, on the West side of the Sacramento River. Its a red tile roof and has a windmill in front with a dock in front. Good for stripers and sturgeon. *Barbara Long*

**Wine Slip, The.** Is located at the Port of Stockton

**Jackpot Contest**

2017		2016		LENGTH	WEIGHT	WATER	DATE	ANGLER
				17"		BUCA	7-7	D. CRITCHFIELD
				25"	36.6oz	OROVILLE	5-16	LARRY THOMAS
				36 3/8"		STINSON BEACH	8-16	LONNIE BROOKS
				35 1/2"	136.5oz	DELTA	11-4	TOM HYDE
				25 1/2"	8.04#	BLAIR LAKE	5-14	GARY ROBERTS
				19"		LAKE SHASTA	9-6	CHUCK MIERKEY
				27 1/2"	96.7oz	AMERICAN RIVER	1-17	PETER ZITTERE
				36"	17lbs	DOWNER LAKE	9-6	SHAWN CONLAN
				21 1/2"	4#4oz	BERRYESSA	4-21	RICHARD COX
				19"	36.8oz	BERRYESSA	5-4	RICHARD COX
				31 1/2"		CLEARLAKE	11-30	MEL EWING
				16 1/2"		FEATHER RIVER	5-8	LARRY EDMONDSON
				16 1/4"		CAMANACHE	3-9	JOHN HESS

**2017 Entries in Red**

- RAINBOW TROUT, **Gary Roberts**, 25 1/2" Blair Lake, 5/14/17
- LARGE MOUTH BASS, **Richard Cox**, 19", 3 lbs., Berryessa, 2/14/17
- SMALL MOUTH BASS, **Richard Cox**, 18", 3 lb. 4 oz., Berryessa, 2/23/17
- SHAD, **Larry Edmondson**, 16 1/2", Feather River, 5/8/17
- CRAPPIE, **John Hess**, 16 1/4", Camanche Lake, 3/9/17

**Fishing the Klamath River—continued from page 1**

Although most of the Klamath River is more conducive to running shallow-draft jet powered boats, the estuary provides ample fishing area for propeller driven boats.

For more information or to book a trip, contact Jerry directly at 530-878-0994 or his cell phone at 530-320-0994.



*The Klamath River Estuary meets the Pacific*