



Kelsey Bass Ranch April 7, 2018

Fishout Location: Kelsey Bass Ranch		Accommodations: Day Trip	Cost: \$100 (see note below)
Fishmaster(s): Jeff Lorelli		Phone: 510-304-2614	Email: jelorelli@gmail.net
Lake/Stream/River: Lake		Seminar planned: None	Max. # Attendees: 20
Directions: There are a few different ways to get to Kelsey; I will send out more detailed directions as the fish out approaches. Address: 7400 Merced Falls Rd, Snelling, CA			
Website(s): http://www.kelseybassranch.net/Home_Page.html			
Meals provided: Bring your own lunch			
Fish: Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Red ear Sunfish		Fishing strategy: Fish from float tube, pontoon, or boat. There are a number of good places to fish. There are many coves with cover; Check out the map on the website	
Suggested Equipment:	Rod Wt(s)	6 wt to 7 wt, 9-10 ft. Rods should have some backbone to turn over big flies.	
	Line	Floating line, weight forward bass bug type taper. Intermediate to Full Sinking lines, shooting head fast sinking	
	Leader	3x tapered or 12-15lb section of level line, stepped down to 8 lb test; 6-7 ft in overall length for subsurface, longer for top water.	
	Tippet	None (Just straight leader)	
	Other	PFD required, float tube, pontoon boat, regular boat, fishfinder, net or Boga Grip, camera. Make sure your PFD is in good working order. Check your tube for leaks before going.	
Suggested Flies:	Patterns/Sizes/etc.	<p>Subsurface – Woolly Buggers, leeches, Aztec deep dredgers, and Clousers in chartreuse/white, olive/white, olive/black, Smelt, Sar-Mul-Mac. Sizes 2-4.</p> <p>Dragon, Damsel nymphs or Crayfish patterns fished deep can produce. Sz 6-8.</p> <p>Top water action can be good but is a function of the weather; approaching fronts or storms can turn off the top water bite but just as quickly it can turn back on. Always have Gurglers in any color, Hard body or deer hair Poppers, Dahlberg divers. The bluegill and sunfish like to hit small (size 10-12) white or chartreuse hard body poppers. Large trout stimulators and terrestrials (4-6) can take bass on the surface at Kelsey.</p>	
Other Gear suggestions: Float tube, pontoon boat or regular boat. Use fish finders to track depth and mark fish. Some people carry two rods. One rigged for top water and the second with a sinking line.			
Details/ Comments / Updates / Attendee list (For car pools)			
<p>Kelsey Bass Ranch is a large 125 acre lake with many coves and shoreline structure so we can accommodate a good size group and still spread out. If we get 10 members to sign up, we can have the lake closed off to others. Cost is \$100/person regardless of how many go (make checks payable to Flycasters). In addition to largemouth bass which can get over 8#, there are red ear sunfish and Bluegill which can also get large and are a blast to catch. Depending on the timing of the spawn, the fish can get to be quite aggressive.</p>			

Note: Everyone must read and sign the Kelsey waiver form to go on this fish out. The waiver form will be put out on the signup table.

A good technique at Kelsey is to park yourself offshore and cast toward the bank. Often times the bass will take the fly as soon as it hits the surface or while it is on the sink. Kick trolling can also produce. When using shooting heads and subsurface flies, use the "count down" method to find the correct depth where the fish are holding. By knowing your fly line's sink rate and counting seconds (based on the sink rate) you can get it to the depth you want, then start your retrieve. Vary your strip retrieve and make frequent pauses. Quite often you will get hits on or just after the pause. Use a strip-set to hook the fish. Do not lift your rod to set the hook. If you miss the fish (with the strip-set), this keeps the fly in the area and bass may hit it again and again, as long as you don't take it out of the zone.

In fishing top water make the fly "pop" by using quick strips to create moving water, which attracts the fish and their instinct to hit whatever is creating the wake. Again, use pauses. If the bass aren't hitting the surface, the sunfish might. Small hard body poppers in white, chartreuse, yellow or black can be effective.

It is recommended that you bring water, other drinks and food to keep your energy level up. Stay hydrated and well nourished. Be prepared for wind and weather; if the lake starts getting choppy, consider getting off until it calms down.

There is a large BBQ pit available near the launch area. If interested bring your favorite meat and briquettes. Fishing hours are sunup to sundown.