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DELNERO & AUXIER TAKE TITLE ON CALIFORNIA DELTA

Saturday, April 30, 2005
Tracy, CA

By: Tim Paes

The California Delta marked the fourth stop on the Nor-Cal Bass Pro-Am Tournament Trail. Seventy-two anglers arrived to fish the event.

The time was right to see some huge Delta weights cross the scales. Anglers had reported the fish were staging and moving onto the beds.

The bite was on and the quality was up. Thirty-five of the thirty-six teams brought in a five-fish limit with fourteen teams bringing in weights heavier than the fifteen pounds. The anglers brought 179 bass to the scales weighing 522-pounds, an average of 2.91-pounds per fish.

Manteca pro Mike Delnero and his partner Jeff Auxier, of Modesto, brought in a five-fish limit that tipped the scales at 28.32-pounds.

The pair keyed on staging fish in the south Delta. Their fish came off brush in 2-5 feet of water. The anglers used Spinnerbaits, Senko's, Tubes and Brushhogs to catch their fish.

For their awesome day on the water, Delnero took home \$1,835 while Auxier earned \$950 for a team total of \$2,785.

Second place went to Modesto pro Norval Pimentel and partner Eddie Kidd, of Marina. Pimentel and Kidd brought in a 25.56-pound five-fish limit. The team's weight was anchored by Pimentel's 8.00-poundunker that took 2nd big fish in the pro division and Kidd's 6.88-pound toad that took 2nd big fish in the am division.

Pimentel and Kidd also keyed on staging fish from Tracy Oasis to Franks Tract. The anglers caught their fish on tule clumps in 5-6 feet of water. They flipped all their fish on Andre Moore tubes, senko's and baby craws.

Pimentel thanked his sponsors; Stratos Boats, Keeper Custom Worms, St Croix rods, Mustad, Ocean Waves, Yo-Zuri and Bob's Marine as he accepted his winnings of \$1,556. Kidd took home \$826 for a team total of \$2,382.



Tracy pro Rob Riehl and partner Jeff Long, of Denair finished 3rd with a five-fish limit that tipped the scales at 22.78-pounds. Riehl's 9.92-pound monster sealed their 3rd place finish and took big fish honors for the event.

The pair keyed on tule's on spawning flats in the south Delta. All their fish were flipped on senko's in 1-3 feet of water.

Riehl thanked his sponsors; Save Phace, Doc Waters, SnagProof, Okuma, Phillips Fishing Products and Pro Fiberglass Repair as he accepted his 3rd place total of \$1,339. Long took home \$483 for a team total of \$1,822.

Rounding out the top five in fourth place was Coulterville pro Dave Holmes and his partner Bill Clayton, of Modesto. Holmes and Clayton brought in a five-fish limit that weighed 19.48-pounds. Holmes took home \$595 while Clayton earned \$210 for a team total of \$805.

Fifth place went to Jamestown pro Deacon Fernandes and his partner Dennis Tarap, of Murphy's. The anglers brought in a 17.02-pound five-fish limit. The team's weight was anchored by Tarap's 6.94-poundunker that took big fish honors in the am division. Fernandes took home \$450 while Tarap earned \$360 for a team total of \$810.

The Pro Division Angler of the Year point's race is wide open leading into the last event of the season. Copperopolis pro Joe Bruce is holding 1st place by the slimmest of margins. Bruce has 408-points followed by Waterford pro Jason Remmers with 407 and Escalon pro Alvin Borba with 406-points. The final event of the year will be a shootout!

In the Am Division Madera's Terry Bennett made the move into 1st place with a commanding 395-points. Second place belongs to Fresno's Dave McEwen with 38-points. Hughson's Jimmie Harrell holds 3rd with 379-points.

The Angler of the Year point's race counts all five of the 2005 events with the top finishers in each division receiving free entries into our 2006 Pro-Am circuit. The top 20 race to the 2005 Pro Championship is based on the best 4 out of 5 events.

The Bob's Marine Pro Bonus Cash awards \$100 and a certificate for a gallon of outboard motor oil to the highest finishing pro angler that is fishing in their first season in the Pro Division. The bonus cash at the California Delta went to 3rd place finisher Rob Riehl.

The Thompson Chevrolet Pro Rookie Point's Race tracks the same anglers throughout the five tournament season and awards \$250 at the end of the year to the point's leader. Murphy's pro Val Garringer holds the lead with 355-points. Like the Angler of the Year point's race, the rookie race is also based on five out of five events.



Thompson Chevrolet is also offering special pricing on new vehicle purchases through their dealership in Patterson for all Nor-Cal members. If you're in the market for a new vehicle, shop around and then come to Thompson and see what Nor-Cal pricing can save you!

Special thanks go to our tournament trail sponsors, Stratos Boats, Mercury Outboards, Minn Kota, Hummingbird and Thermo Oil Batteries. Because of their support, Nor-Cal Bass will be awarding a fully rigged Stratos/Mercury prize package at their Pro Championship tournament. Visit Bob's Marine to take a look at this great boat and motor combination!

Thanks to our official rod sponsor, St Croix, for supporting our anglers and awarding their quality built rods at the 2005 Pro Championship.

Our next Pro-Am event takes place on New Melones. Check-in will take place at Glory Hole Sports. Mandatory check-in time is from 3:00 to 4:00 am on the morning of the event. Anglers late for morning check-in will be assessed a 2 pound penalty and after 15 minutes will be disqualified.

Nor-Cal Bass Tournament Trail sponsors are: Stratos Boats, Mercury Outboards, Bob's Marine, St Croix Rods, Thompson Chevrolet, Minn Kota, Hummingbird, Autolife Sporting Goods, Escalon Bait & Tackle, Tom's Truck Repair, Tracy Oasis Marina, Thermo Oil Batteries, Super Pork, and Keeper Custom Worms.

For more information on our tournament trail, visit our website, www.nor-calbass.com, or call (209) 505-4239.

