



Visit our new web site at [www.csotfa.org](http://www.csotfa.org)

**“Preserving and Perpetuating Old Time Fiddle Music”**

## Presidents Message

Greetings,

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who came to Lodi in April and made the 2022 CSOTFA contest a success. We weren't sure how many people were going to be ready to come out from their Covid Caves, but I think I can confidently say that a good time was had by all.

Special thanks go to Deb Livermore and the CBA for their warm hospitality. We think this “marriage” between CSOTFA and CBA is a good one! As usual, there were many people who stepped up to do the work of the contest, and Tex and I ESPECIALLY appreciated everyone's help given some physical limitations. It turned out that he had another compression fracture in his back and I was diagnosed with FAI (Google it) shortly after we got home. We are both on the mend and hope to be fully recovered soon.

I want also to be sure to acknowledge the incredible tribute board that Cathy Agnew put together in honor of Charley Oveland. He was quite the man and is sorely missed.

The CSOTFA Board met briefly Sunday morning and scheduled a longer more detail-focused meeting this coming August. Stay tuned for the report on that.

We're grateful for the opportunities that we have already had so far this year and expect to enjoy for the remainder of 2022 to share music with you, our Fiddle Family. Having a forced separation of many months made it even more obvious to me just how important all of you are.

As Tex says, keep fiddlin',

Sharon 

## California State Fiddle and Picking Championships Highlights

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual State Fiddle Contest held in coordination with California Bluegrass Assoc. proved to be a fun week/weekend for all who attended. There was camping, jamming, meeting new friends, seeing old friends again AND ending with a great Fiddle Contest. Some of our folks don't see each other anywhere else except at the fiddle contest.

There may not have been as many fiddlers who participated in the contest this year as in past years but the fiddlin' was exceptional.

It was nice to have our CBA friends support the fiddle contest. We always enjoy and appreciate their participation. As Sharon already mentioned we could not have done this without the help of Deb Livermore (campout coordinator). She was there to help and answer questions: she was the energizer bunny! Thanks Deb.

One of the most fun events of the contest is the Anything Goes competition on Friday night. Besides the competition it serves as the evenings entertainment. The Anything Goes has a total pot of \$500 which is solely supported by donations from individuals and districts. Up until a couple of hours before the competition there was only one band signed up to perform. But with a little encouragement (\$\$) there were 7 bands put together to compete. It was really fun to see how quickly these musicians could put together some tunes and a band name (very creative) !! Fun, Fun!!

You will notice the beautiful grape vineyard mural hanging behind the stage. This was hand painted by Pat Cronin with help from Cathy & Wayne Agnew. It made a great backdrop for the contest and pictures. All and all it was an awesome weekend!



**Youngest Boy Fiddler**  
Rowan McNeil, age 6  
**Youngest Girl Fiddler**  
Kyla Kozlowski, age 7



This little 3 year old cutie won her first fiddle in the raffle! A little too big but she will grow into it.

# California State Old Time Fiddlers' Association

## P.O. Box 1703 Oroville, CA 95965

### State Officers

President: Sharon Barrett- texshar@pacbell.net  
V. Pres. : Kathy Kampschmidt - kdkampy@sbcglobal.net  
Secretary: Mary Rose Preston - maryrose@wavecable.com  
Treasurer: Robert Curtis - rocurtis@gatewayacceptance.com  
Membership: Charley Oveland - croveland@sbcglobal.net  
Editor: Cathy Agnew - themimi@roadrunner.com

### State Directors

District 1:  
District 3: Wayne Agnew- howellagnew@gmail.com  
District 4: Pat Nelson -- rpnelson@pacbell.net  
District 5: Lyle Dixon - Lyle@DATEQ.NET  
District 6: Tex Ash -- texshar@pacbell.net  
District 7: Dan Touhstone - dtouchstonefiddler@gmail.com  
District 8: Bob Bueling - bob@sympaticomusic.com  
District 9: Bob Palasek - r03palasek@sbcglobal.net  
District 10: Mark Hogan- hogiemoon@comcast.net

### DISTRICT MEETING LOCATIONS, DATES, AND TIMES:

District 1 4th Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Feather River Senior Center 1335 Meyer St. Oroville

District 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 2:00-5:00 p.m. 21100 Lonely Lane, Tehachapi Ca

District 4 1st Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m.: Orange Thorpe Pk. Activity Bldg., 1414 Brookhurst, Fullerton

District 5 2nd Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave. Orangevale CA

District 6 Free Old Time Fiddle Jams 1st Sunday, 1:00 - 3:00 Open Circle Jam, 3:00 Board Meeting St. James Lutheran Church 2500 Shasta View Blvd. Redding ;3rd Sunday, 1:00 Workshop & Jam, 2:00-4:00 Open Mic Palo Cedro Community Hall, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive Website: <http://www.northstatefiddlers.com><sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>  
Facebook: North State Fiddlers

District 7 2nd Sunday 12:00-2:45PM: Terrace Estates Clubhouse, 1815 Sweetwater Road, Spring Valley, CA  
3rd Sunday 12:30-1:00 PM Workshop, 1:00-3:00 Jam: Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Room 140 Encinitas CA  
4th Sunday 12:00-2:45 PM: Rancho San Diego Library, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego, El Cajon, CA

District 8 2nd & 4th Sunday 1:30-4:00 p.m.: Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Rd. Oak View CA

District 9 4th Sunday 1:30-5:00 p.m.: United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St., Castro Valley CA

District 10 Redwood Cafe, Cotati. Every 4th Sunday 3:00 to 5:00. Janette Duncan, Chris Carney, Steve DeLap, 707-570-2745.

# 54th Annual California State Fiddle and Picking Championships Results

## Pewee (ages 8 and under) (3)

1. Kyla Kozlowski
2. Audrey Clark
3. Rowan McNeil



## Junior Junior (age 12 and under) (8)

1. Sophie McNeil
2. Eli Clegg
3. Kylan Malme
4. Ari Nercessian
5. Owen Anderson



## Junior (age 17 and under) (3)

1. Niko Quale
2. Lucy Crary
3. Koll Malme



## Young Adult (age 18-36) (2)

1. Laurie Kost
2. Tori Gillam



## Adult (age 37-59) (3)

1. Stacey Snodgrass
2. Ben LiaBraten
3. Eric Malme



## Senior (ages 55-69) (3)

1. Fiddlin' Joe Osborn
2. Ginger Vogel
3. Mikki Feeney



## Senior Senior (ages 70 and up) (3)

1. Gordon Mehli
2. Kathy Kampschmidt
3. Randy Warner

## Oldest Fiddler

Gordon Mehli, age 77



## Open (any age) (4)

1. Miles Quale
2. Alex Sharps
3. Eric Anderson
4. Starr McMullen



## Junior Twin Fiddle (age 17 and under)(4)

1. Joseph Wallek/Abi Halsey
2. Teo Quale/Niko Quale
3. Savannah Gillingham/Cathy Pierce
4. Mitchel & Lorelei Kline

So Sorry, no picture available.

## Open Twin Fiddle (age 18 and up) (3)

1. Angela Kost and Laurie Kost
2. Briley Davenport and Tori Gillam
3. Kyla Kozlowski and Kathy Kampschmidt



## Junior Picking (age 17 and under)(1)

1. Lucy Crary



## Open Picking (any age)(4)

1. Jacob Akana
2. Eric Anderson
3. Eddie Bobcat
4. Mary Zangerle



## Accompanist (any age)

1. Jim French
2. Eric Anderson
3. Ben LiaBraten



## Contest MC

Tex Ash, Red Bluff CA



**Judges**

- Wayne Agnew
- Jacob Akana
- Willie Randel
- Stacey Snodgrass
- Dan Touchstone



Judges entertained

**Anything Goes (any age) (8)**

1. Ben's Friends
2. Here Comes Trouble
3. The Whiny Grapes
4. Coerced New Recruits
5. Home Stilted String Band



Ben's Friends



The Left Overs



Warming up on the patio



Tribute to Charley Oveland



Cathy Agnew awarded the Huffman Award with husband Wayne



Jammin' around the fire

Sharon opening the days events.



Great audience



Recognized for the Mural



Ruth Oveland at the Welcome Table



Lots of campers

# District 1

Mary Preston



All that practice finally paid off for Eli Clegg at the State Fiddle Contest. Before (working hard); and After (winning 2nd in his Division). Congratulations Eli!!

District 1 is getting into the swing of things again. We are having regular jam sessions on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and Fiddle Group Workshops on the first and third Monday of the month. Check out the website ([www.csotfad1.weebly.com](http://www.csotfad1.weebly.com)) for details on the time and location for the jams and the workshops.

We are actively encouraging youngsters to come to our jams and the workshops via their music teachers. We also have a lending library of instruments for any young or old aspiring musician.

On that note we are proud to announce that 12-year-old Eli Clegg member of District 1 took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 2022 Championships for his age group. You can watch and listen to him play on our website under State Organization/Championships.

We invite all you aspiring musicians in Butte County and surrounding area to come and join us.



District 3 put together a band to play in the Anything Goes at the State Fiddle Contest. Lynda Emanuels, Tom Rosa, Kelly O'Neil , Lisa Rosa .

# District 3

Wayne Agnew

Despite the blustery wind, Tehachapi Valley United Methodist Church held a Hymn & Gospel Sing-Along at Tehachapi's Central Park on Saturday, June 4, 2022. Since hymns and gospel songs are part of any good fiddler's repertoire, the music was provided by CSOTFA District 3 players: Flute Fiddler Marilynn Hogan, Violin Fiddler Belinda Luna, and Gayel Pitchford, who usually plays the fiddle, but played keyboard for this gig. The Song Leader was Art Sidner, who is the Dist. 3 Contest EmCee. Dist. 3 also supplied the Sound System.

There were about 50 intrepid people in attendance, singing their hearts out. This is the second time TVUMC has done this, and the plan is to make it a regular thing. Next time we will get some of our youngest fiddlers to come and play with us.

TVUMC has partnered with the Fiddlers on a number of occasions: during the pandemic, the Methodists did "parking lot church," and borrowed the Fiddlers' Sound Gear to do it. And several fiddlers— Luke Wagner (age 9) and Cello Fiddler Rebecca Carol ( high schooler) came and played for some of the parking lot services. When the Fiddlers needed a venue to put on our Annual Amateur Fiddle Contest, TVUMC let us use their facilities and did not charge us. They also let us have Strings Orchestra concerts and recitals there as well.

And as a side note, TVUMC's minister, Falamao Samate, is learning to play the violin/fiddle and has played in Tehachapi's annual fiddle contest and won a medal for her performance. Her husband has been learning to play the String Bass. And we recently started another Flute Fiddler, too.

In a small town like ours, collaboration between groups allows us to have lots more events and to further the aims of all the groups involved.  
Gayel Pitchford

# District 4

Pat Nelson

District 4 has begun meeting in person. It is so fun to play together again!

In May, the group met at Patty and Rob's in Fullerton. For June, we are meeting a week later than usual at Pat Nelson's in Yorba Linda on June 12. We will have a BBQ in addition to our jam. Looking forward to good food, good music, and good friends!

# District 5

Lyle Dixon

As expected our May 8th jam at the Orangevale Grange was smaller than usual as it was Mother's Day. Thanks to all the dedicated musicians & supporters who did attend, and we look forward to seeing all of you at our June 12th get-together.

One of our long time members, Bob Baumert, is having medical problems...we wish him a speedy recovery & hope to see him back with us soon!

Jon Smith & his daughters will be hosting a memorial tribute to Stephanie Smith at our June meeting, so please inform anyone who doesn't get our emails to please attend. Stephanie was quite the firecracker at our meetings...she was always lively and entertaining and we miss her!



# California Festivals 2022

For some music fun you might want to check out the festivals in California this summer.

## JUNE

GRASS VALLEY: Father's Day Bluegrass Festival June 16-19, 2022 on Father's Day Weekend. [fathersdayfestival.com](http://fathersdayfestival.com)

SUSANVILLE: Bluegrass Festival June 24-26, 2022 at Lassen County Fairgrounds. \$20-75, [lassencountyfair.org](http://lassencountyfair.org)

REDWOOD CITY: Pub in the Park June 4, July 16, August 13, September 10, 2022 (featuring Bluegrass & Americana)

## JULY

QUINCY: High Sierra Music Festival June 30-July 3, 2022. \$, 30-up, [highsierramusic.com](http://highsierramusic.com)

## AUGUST

FELTON: Saw Festival at Roaring Camp Railroads

TRES PINOS - HOLLISTER Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival August 11-14, 2022 in Bolado Park, 8300 Airline Highway, Tres Pinos, CA, [scbs.org/events/gof/](http://scbs.org/events/gof/) Pre-purchase by July 22 to save!

VISTA San Diego Summergrass Bluegrass Festival August 19-21, 2022. \$20-85, camping available for a fee, [summergrass.net](http://summergrass.net)

SUTTER CREEK: Jug Band Festival [suttercreek.org](http://suttercreek.org)

# District 8

**Bob Bueling**

## My Very First State Fiddle Contest

The 54th California State Old Time Open Fiddle & Picking Championships was held in Lodi. This was the first fiddle contest I have ever been to. I went, so that I could meet the people involved and so I could learn what such a contest is all about. I am so glad I went.

A little background: being introduced to the bluegrass world by my music partner, Bob Bueling, I joined CSOTFA District 8, in 2015. This gave me a chance to take up the violin that I played as a child and learn to play the “fiddle” as an adult. Over the past 7 years, I have taken many lessons and tried to teach myself to play with other musicians on Bluegrass and Old Time songs. I listened to a variety of Old Time tunes. I studied Bluegrass Voice . I played on the District 8 patio jams, in the background. I started playing fills and solos with my duet group, Sympatico Music. I read books on the origins of Bluegrass and Old Time artists. Bob helped by teaching me all he knew about the genre of Old Time Music and Bluegrass. I served as State Director for District 8 in Oak View 2019 and 2020 and held the office as President of our District in 2021.

Learning to play music by ear is a challenging pursuit; especially as an adult. Learning the many fiddle tunes is confusing because there are so many tunes and you have to play them fast . There are various categories and thousands of fiddle tunes to select from, many of which sound similar. It’s not just memorizing the melodies, it is also learning the bowing techniques and rhythms, the timing and the phrasing. All of this and more, goes into learning to play the “fiddle”. Then, you learn to play with guitar accompaniment. All in time! And...timing is everything!

The thought of being able to compete in a genuine fiddle contest seems so far outside my reach, but it is also a huge motivator to continue working on this amazing learning process.

I hope to one day be able to compete as well.

At the CSOTFA Fiddle contest I got the chance to meet the amazing staff of leaders for the State Board of CSOTFA. I met contestants of all ages, from young children to older adults. I met the contest judges who are also highly skilled musicians. All these folks come from various walks of life but the common factor is that they all love music and work very hard to improve their skills to be the best performers they can be.



They are a huge “family” of closely knit music lovers with the common interest of being the best performers they can be, on their respective instruments. They are willing to put the time and effort into improving themselves and they test this effort by showcasing their skills in the form of a contest. Yes, it is competition. Yes, it is hard work, and yes, it costs time and money, but it is a most wonderful reward to compete, and even better, to win. It motivates you to keep pressing forward. Everyone is very encouraging and helpful toward each other. I experienced a very healthy appreciation of improving one’s art. I want to go again. I can’t wait to practice and become the best fiddler I can be.

by Pat Cronin

## Memory Quiz Just for Fun



Hint: He was a fiddler in Dist. 2

If you remember them and can identify them, send me an email  
[catherineagnew448@gmail.com](mailto:catherineagnew448@gmail.com)

There’s no prize, it’s just for fun.

# District 9

Bob Palasek

**So far, this spring, we have had two monthly meetings on the 4th Sundays at our long time venue of The Castro Valley United Methodist Church. Because we are not yet holding potlucks at those jams, attendance is lower than what it used to be. We have seen between a dozen and two dozen musicians in attendance. And the weather has been good enough that there are two or three jams going on simultaneously outside.**

**In our county, Alameda, Laboratory-reported COVID-19 diagnoses have risen steadily since early April, and the County is experiencing a worsening wave of community transmission. The current wave exceeds the size of the wave from the Delta variant in 2021, with comparable levels of daily reported cases. Critically, the County's reported cases are reaching those levels despite the fact that COVID-19 case reports are a substantial underestimate of total case burden, because they do not include home testing results and unidentified infections.**

**So the County has again mandated that face coverings [masks] be worn indoors. Consequently, until further notice, District 9's regular jams will continue to be held outside of the hall, on the church campus,**

**--See you at our next jam on June 26.**

**There will be a Memorial Service for Charley Oveland on Saturday, 11 June, at 2**

# District 10

Mark Hogan



Hi all,

Come join us at Whole Music Camp this July 16-17th! Camp is open to all ages, no instrumental experience required.

We focus on traditional string music, but also offer songwriting, singing, dance, improvisation, backup techniques, rhythm jams, body music, storytelling, yoga, and more. A list of all 22 workshops is here.

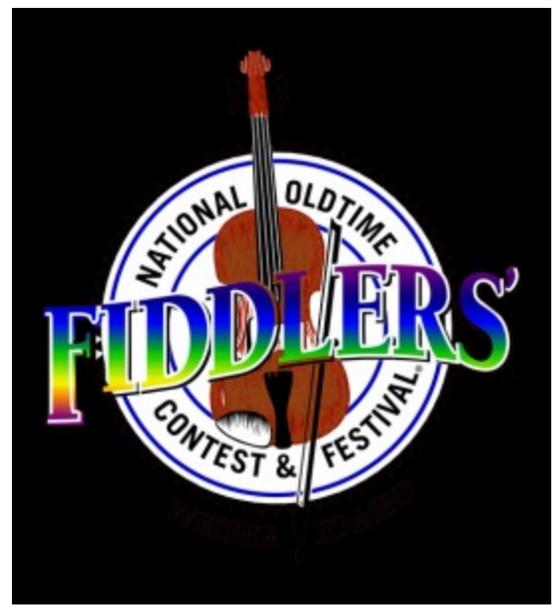
Our teaching team this year includes Thomas Angell, Evie Ladin, Peter Wilson, Keith Terry, Mei Lin Heirendt, Heather Grove, Damon Guthrie, and Sam Devine. Their bios and more info can be found on our website.

Pre-registration is required online at [wholemusiccamp.com](http://wholemusiccamp.com). We're located on a private wooded campus and beautiful alpine lake in Soda Springs.

After camp wraps up, come join for a private house concert Sunday evening July 17th at 7pm in Alta Sierra, featuring camp teachers Evie Ladin and Keith Terry. BYO snacks and drinks, \$20 suggested donation. Email [info@evieladin.com](mailto:info@evieladin.com) to attend. We hope to see you there!

Warmly,

Amie Ferrier, camp director  
[wholemusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:wholemusicstudio@gmail.com)



## Welcome to The National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest & Festival!

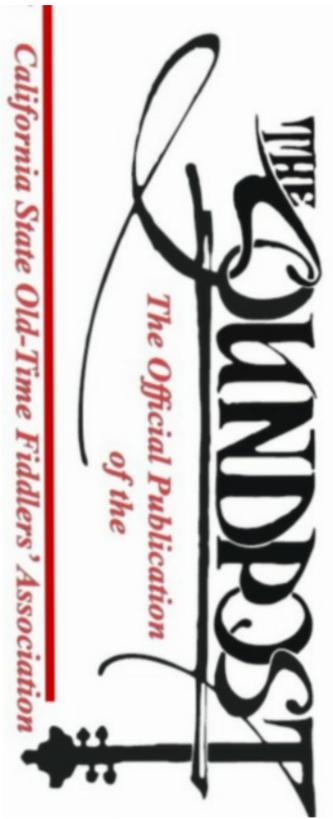
### Contest & Festival Dates:

**Tuesday, June 21st – Saturday, June 25th, 2022**

NEW INFORMATION ABOUT OUR 2022 EVENT:

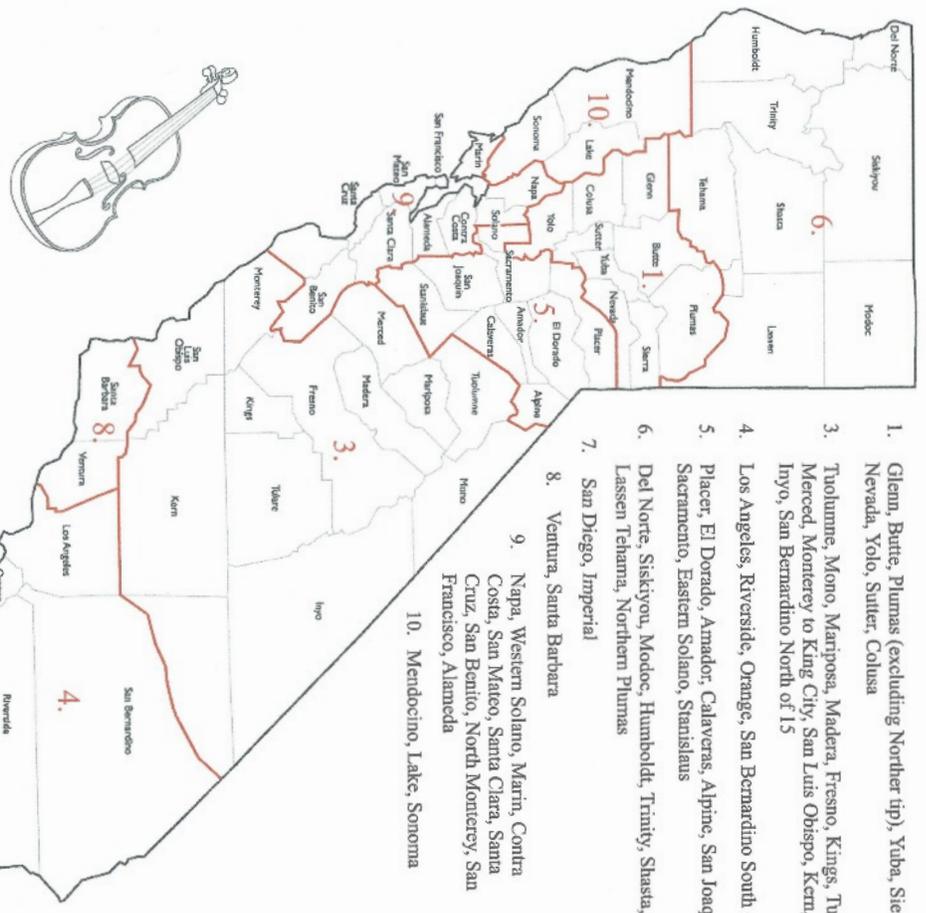
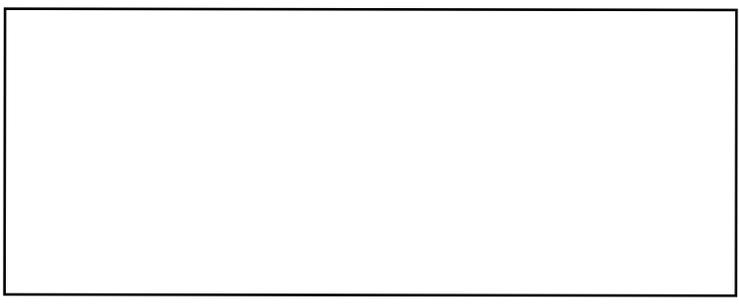
This year's event will be a combination of the traditional live audience plus the entire contest will be livestreamed. This year we have brought back crowd favorites that include the Swing Fiddling 17 and Under, Swing Fiddling 18 and Over, and the Twin Fiddling. Also returning will be the Certified Showcase that compete for, Best Female and Male Entertainer, Best Costume, and Fanciest Fiddler. We have added two new divisions the On-Line Youth (for ages 17 and under) and On-Line General (for ages 18 and over). These are the only two contests to be played from someplace other than Weiser.

For More Information  
<https://www.fiddlecontest.org/>



**April-May 2022**

**CSOTFA Districts**



1. Glenn, Butte, Plumas (excluding Northern tip), Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo, Sutter, Colusa
2. Tuolumne, Mono, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Merced, Monterey to King City, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Inyo, San Bernardino North of 15
3. Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino South of 15
4. Placer, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Alpine, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Eastern Solano, Stanislaus
5. Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen Tehama, Northern Plumas
6. San Diego, Imperial
7. Ventura, Santa Barbara
8. Napa, Western Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, North Monterey, San Francisco, Alameda
9. Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma
10. Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Glenn, Butte, Plumas (excluding Northern tip), Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo, Sutter, Colusa