



The Neal Taylor Nature Center at Cachuma Lake



Max Diamond, age 7 from Carpinteria with his 7.8 lb catch, winning the heaviest catfish prize at the Fish Derby last weekend.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**29TH ANNUAL
NEAL TAYLOR NATURE CENTER**

**FISH
DERBY**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18 -
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026**

Add the 2026 FISH DERBY to your CALENDAR:

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Bodhi Druckman, age 11 from Goleta won heaviest carp at 11.02 lbs.

FISH DERBY WINNERS

The \$599 prize for heaviest trout went to Brian McElhiney, age 66 from Oxnard, while the heaviest bass went to Kayla Maher, age 30 from Lompoc. Kelly Holcomb, age 33 from Templeton won the prize for heaviest crappie.

The heaviest catfish and heaviest carp were both won by children! The \$300 Heaviest Carp Caught prize went to Bodhi Druckman, age 11 from Goleta. 7 year old Max Diamond of Carpinteria, took home the prize for heaviest catfish.

[See all winners >](#)



Bodhi Druckman and his friend Jackson Morin weigh their catch of the day.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FISH DERBY

This year's event was attended by anglers of all ages with 571 registered to fish in the Derby and many others along for a weekend of camping and fun at Cachuma Lake & the Nature Center. This hardy lot of anglers (men, women, boys, and girls) fished in rain, sun, and even under rainbows! Best of all lots of fish were caught in all categories, making for happy anglers.

The Fish Derby is a benefit fundraiser for the Neal Taylor Nature Center which is located at Cachuma Lake and offers programs and exhibits on the history, flora, and fauna of Cachuma Lake and the Santa Ynez River Watershed.

65 volunteers planned and operated the derby, raffle and children's activities bringing in over \$38,000 through sponsorship, donations, and registrations with an additional \$12,000+ in merchandise donations for door prizes and raffle prizes.

[Read more>](#)



FISH DERBY PHOTO GALLERY

[CLICK HERE>](#)

**BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR
SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS!**



Dr. Bill & Vivien Foran



Tracy Angel, Jerry & Sandi Witcher, Mike Lum
James & Christine Gaskin, Brian & Kris Kittle, Dr. Lowell & Shirley McLellan, Leo & Patti Sandow



1 RAFFLE PRIZE STILL UNCLAIMED

Winning Raffle Ticket:

801631

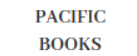
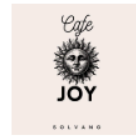
(GREEN TICKET)

This is the **only remaining raffle winner** that has not already been claimed.

To claim your prize, please call us at [805-693-8381](tel:805-693-8381) or email Julie@clnaturecenter.org

You must bring your raffle ticket with you in order to pick up the prize.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR RAFFLE DONORS





LIMITED SUPPLY OF FISH DERBY T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE!

Catch yours before they're all gobbled up!

Available at the Neal Taylor Nature Center Gift Shop

Order shirts by phone (pick up at nature center):
805-693-0691

See pricing, colors, and sizes:
troutderby.org/t-shirts

(some colors and sizes may be sold out)



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