



Northern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers



March 1, 2014

California Fish and Game Commission
1416 9th Street, Room 1320
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Recommendation that the Commission adopt policies to guide protection of California's Public Trust anadromous fisheries.

Commissioners:

Enclosed is our Resolution requesting that your Commission develop policies to protect our Public Trust anadromous fisheries. The work of both the Commission and Department of Fish and Wildlife in establishing a statewide system of sanctuaries for heavily impacted salt water species has been exemplary. We ask that you apply the same thoughtful consideration to developing state-wide anadromous fishery Policies, Strategic, Management and Action plans. Our salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, eels, striped bass and other anadromous species deserve no less.

Stakeholders range from tribal communities, whose interests you recognize and that the Governor supports, to commercial and sport anglers. All such groups should be invited to participate in the discussions that lead to your policy positions.

To initiate this process we offer the following suggestions:

1. Consider this matter at your June Commission meeting in Eureka.
2. Invite interested parties, including tribal representatives, commercial and sport angling groups to participate.
3. Ask anadromous fishery experts to comment on the need for statewide policies concerning the impact of hatcheries on wild fish and overall abundance in coastal and inland waters (Enclosure: "Hatcheries and salmon: comments on hatchery reform," Feb. 4, 2014, California Fish and Game Commission Anadromous Hatchery Workshop, Dr. Peter B. Moyle, University of California at Davis).
4. Provide an opportunity for representatives from NCCFFF and the Smith River Advisory Council to discuss the use of sonar fish counts in developing policies and plans. (Enclosure: "Smith River Anadromous Fish Action Plan," the Smith River Advisory Council March, 2002. This template may be adaptable to other waters).

FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™
Conserving - Restoring - Educating Through Fly Fishing

The Commission and Department have developed an enlightened off-shore sanctuary program. Our anadromous fishery resources need similar attention. We offer our support to this important work.

Sincerely,

Ken Brunskill, President, NCCFFF

Enclosures

cc: Director of Fish and Wildlife
Interested Parties



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RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT CALIFORNIA'S FISH AND
GAME COMMISSION DEVELOP POLICIES AND MONITOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND
MANAGEMENT PLANS ASSURING THE LONG TERM VIABILITY
OF OUR CITIZEN'S PUBLIC TRUST RECREATIONAL AND
COMMERCIAL ANADROMOUS FISHERY RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the state of California lacks current policies for assuring the long-term viability of its anadromous fishery resources for conservation, recreational and commercial purposes;

AND WHEREAS, species such as salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout, sturgeon, striped bass, shad and members of the eel family suffer from individual and cumulative effects of a tidal wave of human population growth, drought and related habitat deterioration;

AND WHEREAS, to be responsive to these conditions policies are required that will guide our fishery agencies to respond to the threats facing our anadromous fisheries;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly fishers (NCCFFF) respectfully requests that the California Fish and Game Commission adopt policies to establish Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives for each of California's significant anadromous fisheries consistent with the policies and requirements of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), including but not limited to the fish doubling goals of the CVPIA, and coordinate closely with the Department of Fish and Wildlife in development of the priorities and Management Plans that implement them;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Commission also accept the on-going responsibility to monitor the status of these new policies and pro-actively adjust them to assure that they and their implementing actions are effective.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Brunskill, President, NCCFFF