

From: dennis.haussler
To: FGC
Cc: dennis@20fathoms.com; Mastrup.Sonke@FGC; [Paul Verveniotis](mailto:Paul.Verveniotis)
Subject: denied opportunity/freshwater changes
Date: Monday, September 01, 2014 9:54:10 AM

Dear president Sutton and fellow commissioners,
I would like to inform you of a difference in regulations that deny myself and others opportunity of state fisheries. I am speaking of the regs for freshwater spearfishing vs freshwater bow and arrow.

Current regulations for freshwater spearfishing are:

2.30. SPEARFISHING.

Spearfishing is permitted only in:

- (a) The Colorado River District for carp, tilapia, goldfish and mullet, all year.
- (b) The Valley District and Black Butte Lake (Tehama County) for carp, tilapia, goldfish, striped bass, western sucker, Sacramento blackfish, hardhead, Sacramento pikeminnow and lamprey, from May 1 through September 15, except that no spearfishing is permitted in:
 - (1) Shasta County (see Section 2.12).
 - (2) Tehama County except Black Butte Lake.
 - (3) Butte Creek (Butte Co.).
 - (4) Feather River below Oroville Dam (Butte Co.).
 - (5) Designated salmon spawning areas (See Fish and Game Code Section 1505).
- (c) The Kern River from the Kern-Tulare county line upstream to the Johnsondale Bridge for carp, goldfish, western sucker, hardhead and Sacramento pikeminnow, from May 1 through September 15.
- (d) See bullfrogs (Section 5.05)

Here are the regs for bow and arrow:

2.25. BOW AND ARROW FISHING.

Bow and arrow fishing is permitted only for the taking of carp, goldfish, western sucker, Sacramento blackfish, hardhead, Sacramento pikeminnow and lamprey, **all year**, except in:

- (a) Designated salmon spawning areas (See Fish and Game Code Section 1505).
- (b) The Colorado River District where only carp, tilapia, goldfish and mullet may be taken.
- (c) See bullfrogs (section 5.05).
- (d) The East Fork of the Walker River between Bridgeport Dam and the Nevada State line where

only carp may be taken.

As you can see, the spearfishers are denied access that is awarded to bow and arrow. I approached the commission in 2012 about spearing striped bass and changing the freshwater spear regs to mirror the bow and arrow regs. We are talking ONLY about rough fish.

I am pleased that the state chose to change the striped bass reg to allow spearing, but really want to see this imbalance of opportunity between spearing and bow and arrow changed. I feel it is only fair to have the spear regs mirror the bow and arrow, as your target species are the same, and our ability to clearly identify species before method of take is triggered far exceeds any other method including bow and arrow.

Please put this on the table for change this year, as I understand this is the year for discussion regarding freshwater changes.

I am copying executive director Sonke Mastrup on this letter, and look forward to hearing your responses to this request.

I won't bore you with my background details, but suffice to say my experience in spearfishing is vast.

My contact info is

[REDACTED]

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Thank you for your time, and hope to move this forward in this change cycle.

Best Regards
Dennis Haussler
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