

# **California Department of Fish and Game**

## **Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp 2008/2009 Fiscal Year Fund Report**



### **Presented to:**

Chief Clerk of the Assembly: E. Dotson Wilson

Secretary of the Senate: Gregory P. Schmidt

Prepared by:

The Department of Fish and Game

Fisheries Branch

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## **Executive Summary**

The Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp (stamp) provides funding for fishery enhancement and restoration projects, as well as funding for staff dedicated to supporting angler and sport fishing needs within the Bay-Delta region.

All anglers fishing within the general area of San Francisco and San Pablo bays, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and their tributaries up to the first dam are required to have a stamp affixed to their fishing license. This requirement was repealed on January 1, 2010.

Statute requires the Department of Fish and Game (Department) to expend stamp funds for the long-term, sustainable benefit of primary Bay-Delta sport fisheries. Funds are to be utilized on projects and research to benefit sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities and anglers within the geographic range of the stamp.

### ***Revenue***

Revenue is generated from the sale of the stamp. Fees collected by the Department from the sale of the stamp are deposited into a dedicated account in the Fish and Game Preservation Fund. Approximately 300,000 stamps were sold annually. As of October 31, 2009, approximately 1.8 million stamps have been sold for a total of roughly \$9.7 million. In 2009, the retail cost of the stamp was \$6.30.

Stamp sales declined in 2008 and 2009 likely due to the Central Valley salmon fishing season closures.

### ***Expenditures***

Stamp revenues fund two ongoing programs annually: the Central Valley Angler Survey (CVAS) Program and the Stamp Projects Program.

The CVAS is funded by a five-year federal Sport Fish Restoration Act grant (75 percent) with Stamp funds providing a 25 percent state match. The survey monitors sport fishing activity in the Central Valley and evaluates potential impacts of sport fishing on listed species. Department fisheries biologists survey anglers, analyze collected data and prepare reports estimating angler effort, catch and harvest for all major species.

The Stamp Projects Program funds projects within the geographic parameters of the stamp that benefit sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities, and anglers. In addition, the Stamp Projects Program administers use and disbursement of the stamp funds and administers the Advisory Committee.

To date, these two programs have spent approximately \$3.2 million on projects and activities benefiting anglers and sport fisheries. Stamp-funded projects have included improvements to fishing access facilities, acclimation and release of hatchery Chinook salmon to enhance survival, sturgeon forensics studies, fisheries education, salmon habitat restoration, an economic analysis of sport fishing in the Bay-Delta, and more.

## Background

The San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary is the largest estuary on the west coast of North America and is a critical economic, environmental, and recreational resource. Both the estuary and river tributaries are prime destinations for anglers in pursuit of striped bass, black bass, white sturgeon, salmon, catfish, and several other sport fishes. The stamp provides funding for staff and projects dedicated to enhancing sport fishing in the Bay-Delta and Sacramento and San Joaquin River systems.

The stamp was enacted on January 1, 2004. Fish and Game Code Section 7361(b) states,

“The Department shall expend the funds in that account for the long-term, sustainable benefit of the primary Bay-Delta sport fisheries, including but not limited to, striped bass, sturgeon, black bass, halibut, salmon, surf perch, steelhead trout, and American shad. Funds shall be expended to benefit sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities, and anglers within the geographic parameters...”

The intent of the legislation is to augment, not replace, funding that would otherwise be allocated to Bay-Delta sport fisheries from fishing license sales, or other federal, state, or local funding sources (Fish and Game Code §7361 (c)).

The stamp provides funding for dedicated staff and projects focused on restoration and enhancement of sport fish populations, sport fishing, and anglers. Anglers recognized this need and supported the original legislation to ensure dedicated money for staff and projects.

The Department works closely with the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee consists of nine appointed members representing Bay-Delta anglers. The Advisory Committee meets several times a year to recommend projects and expenditures of stamp funds to the Department. Advisory Committee meetings are public and provide an opportunity to discuss sport fish-related issues with committee members and Department staff.

## Legislative History

Senate Bill 692 (Chapter 796, 2003) created the stamp, which became effective January 1, 2004. The resulting Fish and Game Code Section 7360 (**Appendix A**) requires all anglers fishing within the stamp’s geographic range to purchase a stamp in addition to their California fishing license. The geographic range includes all tidal waters of San Francisco Bay and the Delta, including San Francisco and San Pablo bays east of the Golden Gate Bridge and west of the Carquinez Bridge and the Carquinez Strait. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta includes all rivers, sloughs, canals, cuts, forebays, and flooded islands within the area south of Interstate 80, west

of Highway 99, north of I-580, I-205, and I-120, and east of I-680. This legislation also includes the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and their major tributaries to the most downstream dam (**Appendix B**). In 2008, AB 2162 reauthorized the stamp for one year and requires an accounting of stamp funds to the Legislature annually. On October 11, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 1052, an amendment to the Fish and Game Code concerning the stamp. This legislation repealed the requirement for anglers to have the stamp on a license or as a validation. California anglers will no longer need to possess or purchase a stamp as of January 1, 2010.

## Revenue Summary

Revenue generated from stamp sales is deposited into a dedicated account within the Fish and Game Preservation Fund. As of October 31, 2009, anglers have purchased 1,810,389 stamps and stamp revenue totaled \$9,730,118.75 (**Table 1**). Stamp costs have increased from \$5.00 in 2004 to \$6.00 in 2009. Since 2006, stamp costs have increased \$0.25 annually. In addition to annual stamp sales, stamps are sold through the lifetime license program.

**Table 1. Annual Stamp Sales, Cost, and Revenue as of October 31, 2009.**

| License Year  | Fee     | Total            |                        |
|---------------|---------|------------------|------------------------|
|               |         | Items            | Revenue                |
| 2004 Annual   | \$ 5.00 | 321,486          | \$ 1,607,430.00        |
| 2004 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 3,429            | \$ 12,001.50           |
| 2005 Annual   | \$ 5.00 | 305,080          | \$ 1,525,400.00        |
| 2005 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 3,639            | \$ 12,736.50           |
| 2006 Annual   | \$ 5.25 | 293,371          | \$ 1,540,197.75        |
| 2006 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 4,006            | \$ 14,021.00           |
| 2007 Annual   | \$ 5.50 | 307,045          | \$ 1,688,747.50        |
| 2007 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 4,360            | \$ 15,260.00           |
| 2008 Annual   | \$ 5.75 | 278,684          | \$ 1,602,433.00        |
| 2008 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 4,648            | \$ 16,268.00           |
| 2009 Annual   | \$ 6.00 | 279,752          | \$ 1,678,512.00        |
| 2009 Lifetime | \$ 3.50 | 4,889            | \$ 17,111.50           |
| <b>Total</b>  |         | <b>1,810,389</b> | <b>\$ 9,730,118.75</b> |

Stamp sales have remained at a consistent level from 2004 through 2007.

Declines in 2008 and 2009 stamp sales are likely due to the recreational salmon fishery closure. Anglers who fish only for salmon did not purchase a stamp in 2008 or 2009.

## Expenditure Summary

### Stamp Program Expenditures

The Department must obtain spending authority from the Department of Finance to spend money in its accounts. Spending authority cannot be exceeded regardless of the total funds available in an account. The stamp funds are in a dedicated account within the Fish and Game Preservation Fund.

Two programs possess spending authority from the Stamp Fund: the CVAS and the Stamp Projects Program. The CVAS received spending authority in FY 05/06 which provides a 25% cost share to a federal sport fish grant.

The Stamp Projects Program received spending authority on July 1, 2006 and is funded entirely from the Stamp Fund.

Two ongoing programs charge to the Stamp Fund:

*Central Valley Angler Survey* - In the fishery management process, scientific research plays the central role in providing reliable information to support sound decision-making on management of Central Valley salmon populations and other sport fisheries. Sport fishing regulations, endangered species protection, enhancement of fish populations and their habitat, and environmental management are the primary tools used to manage Bay-Delta sport fisheries. The CVAS provides data and information that are applied in the implementation of all these tools. This program was dedicated to this account prior to the formation of the Advisory Committee.

*Stamp Projects Program* - The Stamp Projects Program administers the stamp funds and Advisory Committee, and seeks, evaluates, and funds projects. Legislation requires stamp funds be expended on projects that provide long-term, sustainable benefits to sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities, and anglers. The Department seeks projects annually through a Proposal Solicitation Notice and internal requests. To date, funded projects include improved fishing access, fisheries education, salmon acclimation, sturgeon forensics, and more.

Annual stamp expenditures for FY 05/06 through FY 08/09 (**Table 2**) are grouped into three categories: Personal Services; Operations, Equipment and Expenditures (OE&E); and Pro Rata charges. Personal Services includes salaries and wages, and staff benefits for Department personnel who administer stamp funds and who work on projects funded by the stamp, such as the CVAS. OE&E includes all other program costs including, but not limited to, projects, overhead, communications, travel, facilities operation, utilities, and equipment. Pro Rata charges are statewide general administrative costs.

**Table 2. Stamp Fund Expenditures for Personal Services, OE&E and Pro Rata.**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>Personal Services</b> | <b>OE&amp;E</b>       | <b>Pro Rata</b>    | <b>Total</b>          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2005-06            | \$106,485.51             | \$76,892.00           | \$3,500.33         | \$186,877.84          |
| 2006-07            | \$180,684.56             | \$373,850.79          | \$16,621.93        | \$571,157.28          |
| 2007-08            | \$430,761.87             | \$474,438.88          | \$51,341.16        | \$956,541.91          |
| 2008-09            | \$811,534.41             | \$595,485.04          | \$12,921.58        | \$1,419,941.03        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$1,529,466.35</b>    | <b>\$1,520,666.71</b> | <b>\$84,385.00</b> | <b>\$3,134,518.06</b> |

## **Project Expenditures**

**Requirements** -The purpose of the stamp is to fund projects that benefit sport fish populations, anglers, and sport fishing opportunities. Pursuant to Fish and Game Code §7360-7363, the department shall expend the funds:

“...for the long-term, sustainable benefit of the primary Bay-Delta sport fisheries, including, but not limited to, striped bass, sturgeon, black bass, halibut, salmon, surf perch steelhead trout and American shad...” and

“...to benefit sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities, and anglers within the geographic parameters...”

Department staff has been working with the Advisory Committee since January 1, 2004 to identify and fund viable projects. Since the Department received authority to spend stamp funds, the Director has approved 27 projects for funding for a total of approximately \$4.0 million, and 21 projects have been implemented. The amount of funds expended on projects to date is approximately \$3.2 million (**Table 3**). A description and status of each stamp-funded project is provided in **Appendix C**.

**Table 3. Projects Approved for Stamp Funding thru FY 08/09.**

| <b>Approved Projects</b>                                                               | <b>FY Year Approved</b> | <b>Project Cost</b>   | <b>Funds Encumbered/ Expended to Date</b> | <b>Project Status</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Striped Bass Maps                                                                      | 2005-06                 | \$9,900.00            | \$8,533.76                                | Completed             |
| Central Valley Angler Survey (FY 05/06 – 09/10)                                        | 2005-06                 | \$1,200,000.00        | \$1,200,000.00                            | In progress           |
| Turtle Bay Boating and Fishing Access Facility                                         | 2006-07                 | \$50,000.00           | \$40,500.00                               | Completed             |
| Warden Overtime for Sturgeon Poaching                                                  | 2006-07                 | \$50,000.00           | \$0.00                                    | Funds not used        |
| Aquarium in the Classroom Program                                                      | 2006-07                 | \$10,000.00           | \$10,000.00                               | Completed             |
| Sturgeon Punch Card                                                                    | 2006-07                 | \$26,820.00           | \$0.00                                    | Funds not used        |
| Central Valley Hatchery Salmon Acclimation Program                                     | 2006-07                 | \$49,992.34           | \$49,992.34                               | Completed             |
| Central Valley Hatchery Salmon Acclimation Program (FY 07/08-09/10)                    | 2007-08                 | \$294,000.00          | \$294,000.00                              | In progress           |
| Sturgeon Forensics                                                                     | 2007-08                 | \$175,000.00          | \$170,880.31                              | Completed             |
| Sturgeon Punch Card                                                                    | 2007-08                 | \$31,536.00           | \$0.00                                    | Funds not used        |
| South Bonnyview Boating and Fishing Access Facility Improvements                       | 2007-08                 | \$203,500.00          | 203,500.00                                | In progress           |
| Upper Sunrise Boat Launch Facility Improvements                                        | 2007-08                 | \$100,000.00          | \$100,000.00                              | Completed             |
| Economic Analysis Project (50/50 split with Striped Bass Stamp Fund)                   | 2007-08                 | \$228,208.50          | \$228,208.50                              | In progress           |
| New Floating Salmon Net Pen                                                            | 2007-08                 | \$26,732.81           | \$26,732.81                               | Completed             |
| Upper Sacramento River Basin Chinook Salmon Escapement Monitoring (FY's 09/10 & 10/11) | 2008-09                 | \$663,358.00          | \$514,179.00                              | In progress           |
| Merced River Restoration – Gravel Augmentation                                         | 2008-09                 | \$36,270.00           | \$24,882.13                               | Completed             |
| Feather River Hatchery Enhancement Fish Coded Wire Tagging                             | 2008-09                 | \$49,000.00           | \$32,079.80                               | Completed             |
| United Anglers of Casa Grande Coded Wire Tagging Project                               | 2008-09                 | \$105,090.77          | \$105,090.77                              | In progress           |
| Sacramento County Regional Parks Fish Cleaning Station                                 | 2008-09                 | \$89,000.00           | \$89,000.00                               | Contract pending      |
| Fish and Fishing Informational Display at Delta Information and Visitor Center         | 2008-09                 | \$15,000.00           | 0.00                                      | Contract cancelled    |
| Tiburon Salmon Institute Children's Center                                             | 2008-09                 | \$49,982.90           | \$49,982.90                               | In progress           |
| Central Valley Steelhead Monitoring Plan                                               | 2008-09                 | \$79,000              | 0.00                                      | Funds not used        |
| Enforcement DFG                                                                        | 2008-09                 | \$139,263             | 0.00                                      | Funds not used        |
| Sturgeon Punch Card                                                                    | 2008-09                 | \$21,511              | \$21,511                                  | Completed             |
| Stamp Printing                                                                         | 2008-09                 | \$5,874.00            | \$5,874.00                                | Completed             |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                           |                         | <b>\$3,709,039.32</b> | <b>\$3,174,947.32</b>                     |                       |

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp Legislation**

# **Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp**

## **Legislation**

### **California Fish and Game Code**

7360. (a) A person shall not sport fish in the tidal waters of the San Francisco Bay Delta and the main stem of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, including major tributaries, below the most downstream dam, unless he or she first obtains, in addition to a valid California sport fishing license and any applicable stamp or validation issued pursuant to Section 7149 or 7149.05, a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp or validation and affixes that stamp or validation to his or her valid California sport fishing license. Any person issued a sport fishing license pursuant to paragraph (4) or (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 7149 or paragraph (4) or (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 7149.05 is not subject to this division.

(b) The commission may modify, by regulation, the geographic parameters specified in subdivision (a).

(c) The department or an authorized license agent shall issue a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp or validation upon payment of a base fee of five dollars (\$5), in the 2004 license year, which shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant to Section 713.

7361. (a) Fees received by the department pursuant to Section 7360 shall be deposited in a separate account in the Fish and Game Preservation Fund.

(b) The department shall expend the funds in that account for the long-term, sustainable benefit of the primary Bay-Delta sport fisheries, including, but not limited to, striped bass, sturgeon, black bass, halibut, salmon, surf perch, steelhead trout, and American shad. Funds shall be expended to benefit sport fish populations, sport fishing opportunities, and anglers within the geographic parameters established in Section 7360, and consistent with the requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.) and the California Endangered Species Act (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 2050) of Division 3, the ecosystem restoration component of the CALFED Programmatic Record of Decision dated August 28, 2000, and applicable commission policies.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that these funds be used to augment, not replace, funding that would otherwise be allocated to Bay-Delta sport fisheries from the sale of fishing licenses, the California Bay-Delta Authority, or other federal, state, or local funding sources.

7362. (a) The director shall appoint a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp Fund Advisory Committee, consisting of nine members. The committee members shall be selected from names of persons submitted by anglers and associations representing Bay-Delta anglers of this state and shall serve at the discretion of the director for terms of not more than four years. The director shall

appoint persons to the committee who possess experience in subjects with specific value to the committee and shall attempt to balance the perspective of different anglers.

(b) The advisory committee shall recommend to the department projects and budgets for the expenditure of revenue received pursuant to Section 7360. The department shall give full consideration to the committee's recommendations.

(c) The department shall submit to the committee, at least annually, an accounting of funds derived from the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamps and validations, including the number of stamps and validations sold, funds generated and expended, and the status of

programs funded pursuant to this article. In addition, the department shall report, at least annually, to the committee on the status of projects undertaken with funds from that stamp or validation, including reporting the department's reasoning in cases where committee recommendations are not followed.

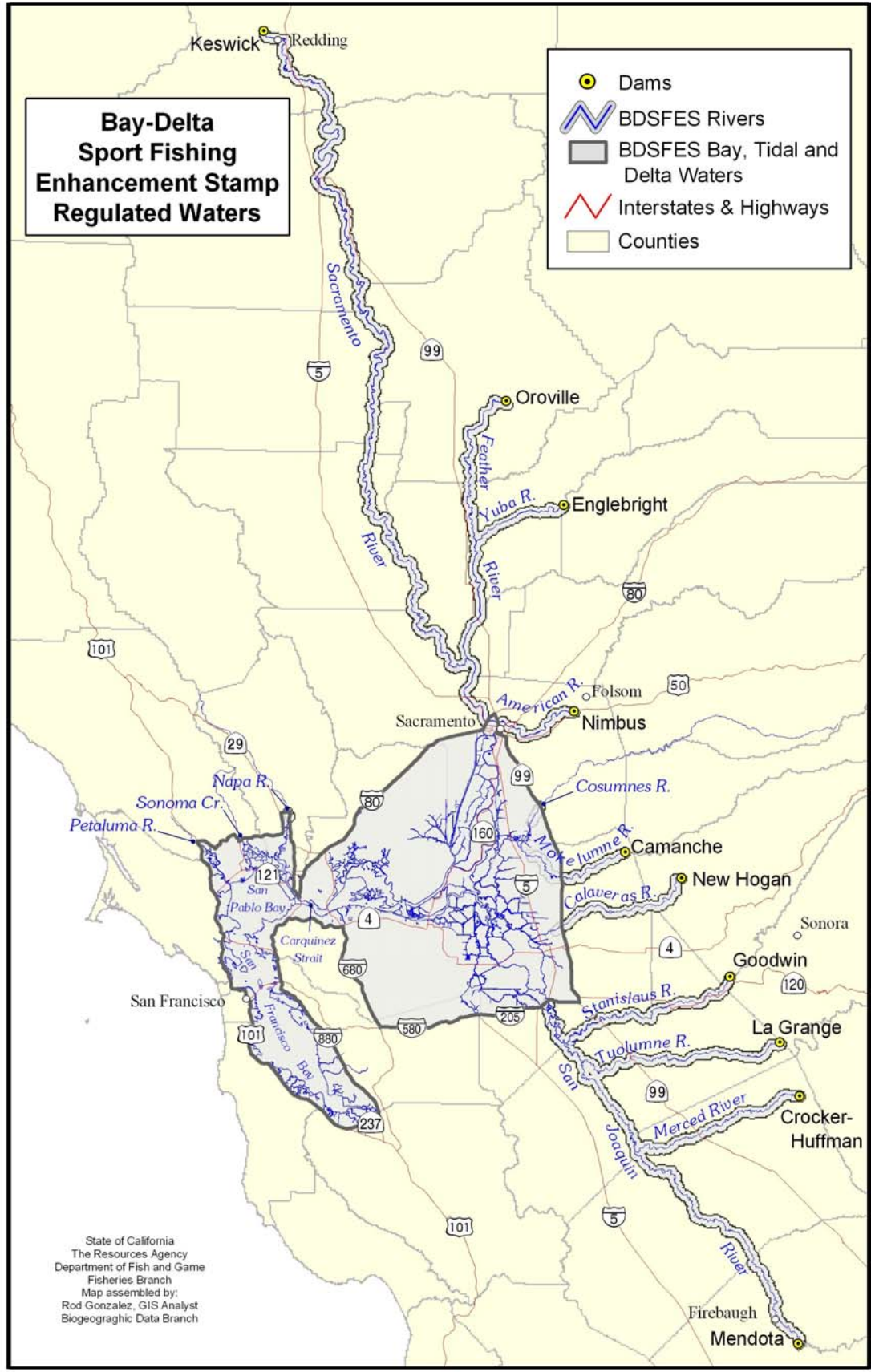
7363. This article shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2010, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2010, deletes or extends that date.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp Map of Geographic Range**

**Bay-Delta  
Sport Fishing  
Enhancement Stamp  
Regulated Waters**

-  Dams
-  BDSFES Rivers
-  BDSFES Bay, Tidal and Delta Waters
-  Interstates & Highways
-  Counties



State of California  
The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Fisheries Branch  
Map assembled by:  
Rod Gonzalez, GIS Analyst  
Biogeographic Data Branch

# **APPENDIX C**

## **Description and Status of Stamp-Funded Projects**

## **Description and Status of Stamp-Funded Projects**

### Striped Bass Fishing Maps Reprint – \$8,533.76

Stamp funds and Sport Fish Restoration Act funds were used to pay for the reprint of striped bass fishing maps.

Project Status: Completed in 2005.

### Central Valley Angler Survey – \$1,200,000

The Central Valley Angler Survey (CVAS) is funded by a (five-year) Sport Fish Restoration Act grant (75%) and the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp (25%). The survey area includes the Sacramento, Feather, Yuba, American, Mokelumne, and Calaveras rivers, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The objective is to survey anglers, analyze collected data, and prepare reports estimating angler effort, catch, and harvest for all major fish species. The focus of the survey is on anadromous fish species: Chinook salmon, steelhead/rainbow trout, sturgeon, striped bass, and American shad. Data collected from this survey will allow for continued management of anadromous sport fisheries in the Central Valley, while also minimizing fishing impacts to listed steelhead. In addition, the CVAS works closely with the Department's Ocean Salmon Project to provide data on the inland recreational fishery as input to the salmon management process of the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Project Status: In progress.

### Turtle Bay Boating and Fishing Access Facility – \$40,500

Stamp funds were used to support angler access improvements at the Turtle Bay Access Facility on the Sacramento River in Redding. Improvements paid for by the Stamp include restroom upgrades, a grass access ramp, night lighting, informational panels, and addition of accessible parking and loading zone.

Project Status: Completed in 2007.

### Aquarium in the Classroom Program – \$10,000

The Aquarium in the Classroom Program is located in the Bay Area and provides teachers with equipment, support, and training so they can provide their classrooms with meaningful curriculum on salmonids. The community also participates in these programs. The teachers and the community guide the students through the salmon

rearing and release process. Stamp funds were used to purchase aquariums, chillers and educational DVD's.

Project Status: Completed in 2006.

#### Central Valley Hatchery Salmon Acclimation Program – \$343,992.34

The Department of Fish and Game contracted with the Fishery of Foundation of California in 2007 (\$49,992.34) and again from 2008-2010 (\$294,000.00) to acclimate all Central Valley hatchery salmon smolts and release them into San Pablo Bay. This project reduces transport stress on the young salmon and increases their chances of survival to adults.

In spring and early summer, Chinook salmon smolts are trucked from Nimbus, Mokelumne River and Feather River fish hatcheries to release sites near San Pablo Bay and Carquinez Strait. At the release sites, up to six hatchery trucks offload their shipment of young salmon into floating net pens. The pens are immediately covered with netting to prevent predation by birds, fish, and marine mammals, or the escape of any of the new possibly disoriented jumping fish. The fish are then allowed to settle and acclimate in the pens to the new water conditions for between one to three hours. Once the tides are outgoing, the nets are towed out into the deep water channel and the salmon are released. In 2008, 20 million young salmon were placed in net pens and released into San Pablo Bay.

Project Status: In progress.

#### Sturgeon Forensics – \$170,880.31

A major threat to California's white sturgeon population is the illegal take and commercialization of this resource. Sturgeon caviar and meat are both sold on the "black market" and is a financial incentive for active and would-be poachers. Officials in the DFG Enforcement Branch have identified the commercialization of white sturgeon as a high priority for enforcement and requested that the Wildlife Forensic Laboratory develop forensic techniques to assist enforcement in two different areas:

1. To differentiate farm raised white sturgeon caviar from wild white sturgeon caviar.
2. To be able to assign white sturgeon forensic samples to a specific watershed or to a specific population of fish and to have the ability to match or exclude forensic samples.

Project Status: Completed in 2009.

#### South Bonnyview Boating and Fishing Access Improvements – \$203,500

The Stamp Program is providing funds to the City of Redding for angler access improvements to the South Bonnyview Boating and Fishing Access Facility on the Sacramento River. Improvements to the facility include addition of an ADA-compliant fishing platform, 0.7 miles of angler access trails, new picnic facilities, and enhanced restrooms.

Project Status: In progress.

#### Upper Sunrise Boat Launch Facility Improvements – \$100,000

Stamp funds were used for improvements to the Upper Sunrise Boat Launch Facility on the lower American River. Improvements to the boat launch facility include replacement of the boat launch ramp, realignment of the boating access and recreational trail, improvements to the restroom and parking facilities, and ADA-compliant access to the boating facilities.

Project Status: Completed in 2009.

#### Economic Analysis of Sport Fishing in the Central Valley, California – \$228,208.50

The Stamp Program and Striped Bass Stamp Fund are co-funding the Program for Applied Research and Evaluation at California State University, Chico to conduct an economic analysis of the impact of fishing for striped bass, halibut, black bass, steelhead and Chinook salmon in the Bay-Delta and Sacramento-San Joaquin river system.

Project Status: In progress.

#### New Salmon Rearing Net Pen - \$26,732.81

Stamp funds were used to purchase a new floating net pen for the San Francisco Tyee Club's salmon rearing project.

Project Status: Completed in 2009.

#### Upper Sacramento River Basin Chinook Salmon Escapement Monitoring - \$514,179

Stamp funds are being used to monitor the annual abundance, migration timing, and distribution of adult fall-run Chinook salmon returning to spawn throughout the Upper Sacramento River Basin in 2009 through 2011.

Project Status: In progress.

#### Merced River Salmon Spawning Habitat Restoration - \$24,882.13

Stamp funds were used to provide a one-time addition of suitable spawning gravels (approximately 1.2 acres or 1,200 tons of gravel) in the first riffle immediately downstream from the Crocker-Huffman Diversion Dam in the lower Merced River. This will replenish depleted spawning gravels for steelhead/rainbow trout and improve Chinook salmon spawning habitat.

Project Status: Completed in 2009.

#### Feather River Hatchery Chinook Salmon Coded Wire Tagging - \$32,079.80

For consistency with the on-going Central Valley-wide Constant Fractional Marking/Tagging Program, the Brood Year 2008 fall-run Chinook salmon reared at Feather River Hatchery Annex will need to be marked and coded-wire tagged at a 25% rate in the spring of 2009. This program will provide valuable data for improved management of ocean and inland fisheries, assessment of the effectiveness of habitat improvement programs, and evaluation of hatchery programs. Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission currently operates the Central Valley CFM program as a unified program, with funding from U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, East Bay Municipal Utilities District, and Department of Water Resources. The Stamp Program provided funds for supplies and personnel needed for the marking/tagging of fish reared for enhancement purposes at Feather River Annex in 2008/09.

Project Status: Completed in 2009.

#### Untied Anglers of Casa Grande Chinook Salmon Tagging Program - \$105,090.77

Stamp funds will be used to launch a tagging program for Chinook salmon at the United Anglers of Casa Grande (UACG) conservation fish hatchery. Data are needed to evaluate the success of the UACG's hatchery-based supportive breeding program in meeting release objectives. A tagging program would allow the UACG to determine: (1) the relative contribution of UACG hatchery fish to the ocean commercial and sport fishery; (2) the return rates of UACG hatchery fish; (3) if UACG hatchery fish are recovered elsewhere in the Central Valley; and (4) the relative contribution of UACG hatchery fish to the Bay-Delta inland sport fishery. The Stamp Program will fund the UACG's tagging program for three years beginning in spring of 2009.

Project Status: In progress.

#### Fish Cleaning Station at Discovery Park - \$89,000

The County of Sacramento Department of Regional Parks will receive Stamp funds for the installation of a fish cleaning station at Discovery Park. The purpose of this project is to provide anglers with a clean, sanitary facility for fish cleaning and waste disposal.

Project Status: Contract pending.

Tiburon Salmon Institute - \$49,982.90

The Stamp Program is providing funds to the Tiburon Salmon Institute (TSI) for educational and public awareness events and to install and manage salmon rearing net pens. Stamp funds will pay TSI to: (1) coordinate, plan and carryout the Salmon Kiss and Release program in May and October; and (2) install salmon rearing net pens at the Romberg Center (San Francisco State University) in Tiburon and manage the fish in the pens until they are released.

Project Status: In progress.

Sturgeon Punch Card – \$21,511

Stamp funds were used to pay for the printing and distribution of the Sturgeon Punch Card in 2009. Stamp funds were used to cover these costs so anglers would not be charged for the punch card. Information gathered from the punch card will enable the Department to better control poaching, calculate a stronger population abundance estimate, and better understanding the fishery.

Project Status: Annually since 2009.

Stamp Printing - \$5,874.00

In 2009, Stamp funds were used to print 440,000 stamps.