

# Notice of Availability of an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement

**Agencies:** California Department of Fish and Game (lead state agency) & US Fish and Wildlife Service (lead federal agency)

**Action:** Notice of Availability of a joint draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) and notice of public meetings.

**Project contacts:**

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**Project title:** California Department of Fish and Game Fish Hatchery and Stocking Program draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/EIS)

**Project location:** DFG currently operates 24 hatchery facilities statewide and stocks in both urban and rural lakes, streams, rivers and other waterbodies throughout California. DFG's headquarters are in the City of Sacramento in Sacramento County, Ca.

**Project summary:** The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), released a joint draft EIR/EIS related to DFG's Fish Hatchery and Stocking Program (Program) on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009 for public review and comment.

DFG and FWS have prepared this joint DEIR/EIS to evaluate and disclose the potential effects the Program has on aquatic resources and the environment. Preparation of this document also complies with a recent court decision that determined DFG's Program must undergo environmental analysis under CEQA in order to continue fish stocking practices.

Within this document, hatchery operations and stocking activities associated with the DFG's Program, which includes FWS funding for the operation of 14 inland trout facilities and the Mad River Hatchery steelhead portions of the Program, are evaluated for their effects on the environment. These effects include, but are not limited to, potential impacts to native fish and wildlife species and other biological resources, water supply, water quality, hydrology, cultural resources, and recreation and economics. The principal issues addressed are effects on native amphibians, reptiles and fish from stocking trout; genetic and other effects on native salmon and steelhead from stocking hatchery-reared salmon and steelhead; the potential for spreading pathogens and invasive species through fish stocking; the potential for water quality degradation associated with hatchery discharges to creeks and rivers; and the effects of reduced fishing opportunities on recreation and local economies. The attached table displays those areas where impacts were identified, and associated mitigation measures. Those areas of the Program where implementation of mitigation measures may not reduce the effects to less than significant have also been identified. DFG has also evaluated its issuance of stocking permits to private parties seeking to stock fish in California's inland waters.

DFG and FWS will hold four public meetings to solicit public input on the DEIR/EIS. The meetings will be held as follows:

**Sacramento, CA:**

**Place:** Elk's Lodge

**Location:** 6446 Riverside Blvd., Riverside Hall

**Time:** 5:30pm to 7:30 pm

**Date:** Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009

**Bakersfield, CA**

**Place:** Double Tree Hotel, California Grill Room

**Location:** 3100 Camino Del Rio Court

**Time:** 5:30pm to 7:30 pm

**Date:** Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009

**Redding, CA**

**Place:** Shasta Builders Exchange Training Facility

**Location:** 2985 Innsbruck Dr., Shasta Room

**Time:** 5:30pm to 7:30 pm

**Date:** Monday, Oct. 26, 2009

**Carson, CA**

**Place:** Carson Community Center, Main Hall

**Location:** 3 Civic Plaza Drive, Carson

**Time:** 5:30pm to 7:30 pm

**Date:** Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009

For more information on the Program, and to view and download the DEIR/EIS and other supporting documents, visit the Program Web site at: [www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov) and select the "Hatchery EIR/EIS" icon in the "news" column. You can also email your questions and/or comments to [dfghatcheryeir@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:dfghatcheryeir@dfg.ca.gov).

A copy of the document is available at each hatchery facility and at DFG and FWS headquarters (see addresses below); please call ahead to schedule an appointment to view the copy at headquarters. A copy may also be requested by contacting Mr. Jim Starr or Mr. Bart Prose (see contact information above). You also can email your request to [dfghatcheryeir@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:dfghatcheryeir@dfg.ca.gov).

The close of the 45-day public comment period for CEQA purposes is November 16, 2009. Copies were also filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and a notice of the document's availability must be posted in the Federal Register. The close of public comment for NEPA purposes will be 45 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

[www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html)

**Special Assistance at Public Meetings**

If special assistance is required at the public meetings, please call (916) 231-9605, or email [jrogers@icfi.com](mailto:jrogers@icfi.com) no later than Monday, Oct. 19, 2009.

**Public Disclosure**

Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal information—may be made publicly available.

**Copies of the DFG Fish Hatchery and Stocking Program EIR/EIS can be viewed at the following locations:**

Iron Gate (Siskiyou County)  
8638 Lakeview Road  
Hornbrook, CA 96044

Mad River (Humboldt County)  
1660 Hatchery Road  
Arcata, CA 95521

Trinity River (Trinity County)  
1000 Hatchery Drive  
Lewiston, CA 96052

Feather River (Butte County)  
5 Table Mountain Blvd.  
Oroville, CA 95965

Feather River–Thermalito Annex (Butte County)  
4700 Highway 99  
Oroville, CA 95965

Warm Springs (Sonoma County)  
3246 Skaggs Springs Road  
Geyserville, CA 95441

Coyote Valley Dam Egg Collection Facility  
(Mendocino County)  
1160 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482-9404

Nimbus (Sacramento County)  
2001 Nimbus Rd., Ste. F  
Gold River, CA 95670

Mokelumne (San Joaquin County)  
25800 North McIntire Road  
Clements, CA 95227

Merced River (Merced County)  
4998 Robinson Road  
Snelling, Ca 95369

Mount Shasta (Siskiyou County)  
#3 North Old Stage Road  
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067

Darrah Springs (Tehama County)  
29661 Wildcat Road  
Paynes Creek, CA 96075

Crystal Lake (Shasta County)  
40158 Baum Lake Road  
Cassel, CA 96016

American River (Sacramento County)  
2001 Nimbus Road  
Gold River, CA 95670

Moccasin Creek (Tuolumne County)  
Highway 49 and 120  
Moccasin, CA 95347

Hot Creek (Mono County)  
121 Hot Creek Hatchery Road  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Black Rock (Inyo County) Annex of Mount  
Whitney Hatchery  
1 East Black Rock Springs Road  
Independence, CA 93526

Fish Springs (Inyo County)  
215 Fish Springs Road  
Big Pine, Ca 93513

Mount Whitney (Inyo County)  
#1 Golden Trout Circle  
Independence, CA 93526

San Joaquin (Fresno County)  
17372 Brook Trout Drive  
Friant, CA 93626

Fillmore (Ventura County)  
612 East Telegraph Road  
Fillmore, CA 93016

Mojave (San Bernardino County)  
12550 Jacaranda Avenue  
Victorville Road, Ca 92395

Kern River Planting Base (Kern County)  
14400 North Sierra Way  
Kernville, Ca 93238

Silverado Planting Base (Napa County)  
7329 Silverado Trail  
Yountville, Ca 94599

USFWS Offices  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606  
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