

## Mitigation Measures

### Trout Stocking

To help mitigate impacts associated with trout stocking, DFG will implement a pre-stocking evaluation protocol (PSEP). The PSEP is a decision support process whereby DFG determines the likelihood that various sensitive, native or legally-protected species could be impacted due to stocking. Various record searches, surveys, native species restoration, and habitat protection measures may be required as a result of implementing the PSEP (PSEP detailed in Appendix K of the EIR/EIS).

### Salmon and Steelhead Stocking

DFG is currently preparing hatchery genetic management plans (HGMP) in consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as well as the owners of the various hatchery facilities. Because DFG doesn't have the authority to unilaterally change operations of the mitigation hatcheries, impacts to these resources will continue to be significant and unavoidable until the HGMP process is complete. Although the HGMPs are not yet approved by NMFS, DFG has already taken steps to implement the actions contained in many of the draft HGMPs.

### Private Stocking Permits

To help mitigate impacts from issuing private stocking permits, DFG is recommending to the California Fish and Game Commission, that it eliminate exemptions from obtaining permits in those 37 counties where private stocking permits for stocking private waters is currently exempted. DFG will also implement a protocol to determine the likelihood of impacting sensitive, native or legally-protected species prior to issuing a private stocking permit in proposed waters. DFG will further recommend to the California Fish and Game Commission that private stocking permits require some proof that hatcheries providing fish for private stocking have followed similar protocols that are required in DFG operated hatcheries to minimize the possibility of spreading disease and invasive species.

