

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR JUNE 12-13, 2019

**11. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (WRC)****Today's Item**Information ☐Action ☒

Receive summary from the May 16, 2019 WRC meeting and potentially approve WRC recommendations. Receive update on WRC work plan and timeline. Discuss and potentially approve new topics for WRC review.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Most recent WRC meeting May 16, 2019; WRC, Sacramento
- **Today's discussion Jun 12-13, 2019; Redding**
- Next WRC meeting Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa

**Background**

WRC works under FGC direction to set and accomplish its work plan (Exhibit 2).

**Meeting Summary**

WRC met on May 16, 2019 and covered the following topics:

- Initial vetting for mammal hunting, waterfowl hunting, Central Valley sport fishing, and Klamath River Basin sport fishing
- DFW-managed lands regulations
- Update on simplification of statewide inland fishing regulations
- Update on bullfrogs and non-native turtle stakeholder engagement
- Review and consider recommendations on AB 1387, regarding 12-month sportfishing licenses (see Exhibit 2)
- Discuss draft FGC Delta Fisheries Management Policy

A written summary of the meeting is provided in Exhibit 1.

**WRC Recommendations**

Based on the meeting discussions, WRC has three recommendations for FGC consideration:

1. Advance a rulemaking with changes to DFW-managed lands regulations focused on designating acquired properties, removing other properties, and minor changes to clean up existing regulations governing public uses.
2. Communicate to the California State Legislature conceptual support for 12-month fishing licenses, with support depending upon minimizing fiscal impacts to DFW, establishing achievable timelines, providing greater flexibility in license and tag pricing, and funding a public communications and outreach effort.
3. Add the word "sustainable" to Section V of the draft Delta Fisheries Management Policy as discussed, and refer the draft policy from WRC to FGC for discussion (see revised draft in Exhibit 3).

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR JUNE 12-13, 2019

**Significant Public Comments**

Three comments related to simplification of statewide inland fishing express concerns with the impact of the proposal on Mono and Inyo counties (exhibits 5-7).

**Recommendation**

**FGC staff:** Approve draft workplan, recommendation 2 related to 12-month fishing licenses, and recommendation 3 related to the draft Delta Fisheries Management Policy. Consider WRC recommendation 1 related to DFW-managed lands revisions under Agenda Item 32(A) – Next Meeting.

**Exhibits**

1. Summary of May 16, 2019 WRC meeting (to be distributed at Jun FGC meeting)
2. [WRC work plan, updated Jun 3, 2019](#)
3. [AB 1387, amended May 20, 2019](#)
4. [Delta fisheries management overview and draft policy, revised May 16, 2019](#)
5. [Email from John Harris, received Apr 16, 2019](#)
6. [Letter from Caryn Todd, received Apr 30, 2019](#)
7. [Letter from Carolyn Webb, Virginia Lakes Resort, received Apr 29, 2019](#)

**Motion/Direction**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission approves recommendations 2-3 from the May 16, 2019 Wildlife Resources Committee meeting.

**OR**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission approves the recommendations from the May 16, 2019 Wildlife Resources Committee meeting, except for \_\_\_\_\_.

**Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) 2018-19 Work Plan**  
**Scheduled Topics and Timeline for**  
**Items Referred to WRC by the California Fish and Game Commission**  
Updated June 3, 2019

Topic	Category	2019			2020
		JAN	MAY	SEP	Jan
		Ontario	Sacramento	Santa Rosa	TBD
Annual Regulations					
Upland (Resident) Game Birds	Annual	X/R		X	X/R
Sport Fishing	Annual				
Mammal Hunting	Annual		X	X/R	
Waterfowl	Annual		X	X/R	
Central Valley Salmon Sport Fishing	Annual		X	X/R	
Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing	Annual		X	X/R	
Regulations & Legislative Mandates					
Falconry	Referral for Review				
Department Lands Regulations	Regulatory	X	X/R		
Simplification of Statewide Inland Fishing Regulations	Regulatory	X/R	X	X	
Special Projects					
Bullfrogs and Non-native Turtles	Referral for Review		X	X	
Policies					
Delta Fisheries Forum Recommendations and Delta Fisheries Policy	Referral for Review	X	X/R		
Legislation					
365-Day Fishing Licenses (AB 1387)	Referral for Review		X/R		

**KEY:    X   Discussion scheduled    X/R   Recommendation developed and moved to FGC**

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 20, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2019–20 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1387**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Wood**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Gallagher)**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bigelow, Brough, Cunningham,**  
**Kiley, Mathis, Mayes, and Salas)**  
(Coauthors: Senators Archuleta, Bates, Borgeas, Galgiani, and Nielsen)

February 22, 2019

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An act to ~~amend Section 7149.3 of, and to amend, repeal, and add Sections 1053.1, 1764, 6596.1, 7149.05, 7149.2, and 7150 of, add and repeal Section 7149.06 of~~ the Fish and Game Code, relating to sport fishing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1387, as amended, Wood. Sport fishing licenses: ~~12 consecutive month~~ *12-consecutive-month* licenses.

Existing law requires every person 16 years of age or older who takes any fish, reptile, or amphibian for any purpose other than profit to first obtain a sport fishing license for that purpose, with specified exceptions, and to have that license on their person or in their immediate possession when engaged in carrying out any activity authorized by the license. Existing law ~~governs the issuance of calendar year and short-term sport fishing licenses, including the fees for those licenses. Under existing law, a calendar year license expires at the end of the calendar year, regardless of when issued.~~ *requires a resident or a nonresident, 16 years of age or older, upon payment of a specified fee, to be issued a sport fishing license for the period of a calendar year, or, if issued after the beginning of the year, for the remainder thereof. Existing law also*

*requires the issuance of shorter term licenses upon payment of a specified lesser fee. Existing law requires the Fish and Game Commission to adjust the amount of the fees, as prescribed, to fully recover, but not exceed, all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the commission relating to those licenses.*

~~This bill, instead of calendar year licenses, would require issuance of sport fishing licenses that expire 12 consecutive months after the date specified on the license. The bill would require license applicants to provide their email address and agree to be contacted regarding purchase, renewal, or reactivation. The bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to submit to the Legislature a written report on the implementation of these provisions. The bill would make these provisions operative beginning on January 1, 2021. The bill would also require the department, no later than January 1, 2021, to enable licenses and validations to be displayed on an electronic mobile device. The bill would repeal all general statutory provisions governing issuance of annual and short-term sport fishing licenses on January 1, 2026, for both residents and nonresidents who are 16 years of age and older. The bill would make related legislative findings and declarations and a related statement of legislative intent. The bill would also make nonsubstantive and conforming changes.~~

*This bill, in addition to sport fishing licenses for the periods specified above, would require a sport fishing license to be issued to a resident or nonresident for the period of 12 consecutive months, upon payment of a fee that is equal to 130% of the fees for issuance of resident or nonresident calendar-year sport fishing licenses, as applicable. The bill would require the department to provide applicants for these licenses the option of signing up for automatic renewal of the license by electronic payment and would set the fee for licenses issued upon automatic renewal at the same price as a calendar-year sport fishing license issued to residents or nonresidents, as applicable. The bill would require the commission to adjust the amount of the fees as necessary to fully recover, but not exceed, all reasonable implementation and administrative costs of the department and the commission relating to these licenses, including all costs related to their establishment and enforcement. The bill would require the department to collect all relevant, appropriate, and sufficient data necessary to justify the amount of the fees, as provided. The bill would require the department to submit to the Legislature a written report on the implementation of these*

*provisions, as provided. The bill would make these provisions operative beginning January 1, 2021, until January 1, 2026.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. Section 7149.06 is added to the Fish and Game*  
2     *Code, to read:*

3     *7149.06. (a) In addition to sport fishing licenses for the periods*  
4     *specified in Section 7149.05, a sport fishing license granting the*  
5     *privilege to take any fish, reptile, or amphibian anywhere in this*  
6     *state for purposes other than profit for the period of 12 consecutive*  
7     *months, beginning on the date specified on the license, shall be*  
8     *issued to both of the following:*

9     *(1) A resident, 16 years of age or older, upon payment of a fee*  
10    *that is equal to 130 percent, rounded to the nearest twenty-five*  
11    *cents (\$0.25), of the fee charged to a resident for a calendar-year*  
12    *sport fishing license under Section 7149.05.*

13    *(2) A nonresident, 16 years of age or older, upon payment of a*  
14    *fee that is equal to 130 percent, rounded to the nearest twenty-five*  
15    *cents (\$0.25), of the fee charged to a nonresident for a*  
16    *calendar-year sport fishing license under Section 7149.05.*

17    *(b) The department shall provide applicants the option to sign*  
18    *up for automatic renewal of a license issued pursuant to this*  
19    *section by automatic credit card or debit card payment or*  
20    *electronic funds transfer. Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the fee*  
21    *for issuance of a license upon automatic renewal shall be equal*  
22    *to the cost of a calendar-year sport fishing license issued pursuant*  
23    *to Section 7149.05 to residents or nonresidents, as applicable. The*  
24    *department shall provide a person who signs up for automatic*  
25    *renewal with advance notice of renewal, including the date of the*  
26    *scheduled renewal fee charge.*

27    *(c) The terms and conditions set forth in Section 7149.05*  
28    *regarding issuance of California sport fishing license validations*  
29    *shall also apply with respect to sport fishing licenses issued*  
30    *pursuant to this section.*

31    *(d) (1) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees*  
32    *specified in this section, as necessary, to fully recover, but not*  
33    *exceed, all reasonable implementation and administrative costs*

1 of the department and the commission relating to the licenses under  
2 this section. Implementation and administrative costs shall include  
3 all costs related to the establishment and enforcement of these  
4 licenses.

5 (2) The department shall collect all relevant, appropriate, and  
6 sufficient data necessary to justify the amount of the fees assessed  
7 pursuant to this section, including information about data  
8 collection and enforcement costs. Data collection efforts  
9 undertaken pursuant to this section shall avoid duplication and  
10 use data collected for other purposes, as feasible.

11 (e) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

12 (f) On or before December 1, 2024, the department shall submit  
13 to the Legislature a written report on the implementation of this  
14 section, which shall include all information collected pursuant to  
15 subdivision (d). The report shall be submitted in compliance with  
16 Section 9795 of the Government Code.

17 (g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026,  
18 and as of that date is repealed.

19 ~~SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the~~  
20 ~~following:~~

21 ~~(1) The number of annual sport fishing licenses sold in~~  
22 ~~California has declined by 55 percent since 1980, even though the~~  
23 ~~population of the state has increased by 60 percent. Sale of sport~~  
24 ~~fishing licenses annually provides the Department of Fish and~~  
25 ~~Wildlife (department) approximately \$59 million in revenue at~~  
26 ~~current levels, but if sales per capita had remained constant since~~  
27 ~~1980, this number would be increased by \$54 million. Additionally,~~  
28 ~~federal grant moneys under the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish~~  
29 ~~Restoration Act (SFRA) (16 U.S.C. Sec. 777 et seq.) add~~  
30 ~~approximately \$17 million to the department's annual operating~~  
31 ~~budget, averaging \$17,069,333 each year from 2015 to 2017,~~  
32 ~~inclusive. Combined, revenue from sport fishing license sales and~~  
33 ~~SFRA grants is approximately \$76 million. By comparison, the~~  
34 ~~department annually receives approximately \$20 million in revenue~~  
35 ~~from the sale of hunting licenses and \$20 million in revenue from~~  
36 ~~federal hunting-related grants.~~

37 ~~(2) A new vendor contract for the department's Automated~~  
38 ~~License Data System (ALDS) will be implemented on January 1,~~  
39 ~~2021. By upgrading ALDS requirements before a new system and~~  
40 ~~vendor are selected, the department will be able to take advantage~~

1 of state-of-the-art software without needing expensive upgrades  
2 to an existing system, saving many hundreds of thousands of  
3 dollars.

4 (3) ~~The department should be using the most current forms of~~  
5 ~~electronic communication and outreach to contact potential anglers,~~  
6 ~~currently licensed anglers, and anglers whose licenses have expired,~~  
7 ~~in order to achieve the goals of the department's recruitment,~~  
8 ~~retention, and reactivation (R3) program.~~

9 (4) ~~In 2018, the department convened a stakeholder group to~~  
10 ~~make recommendations on recruitment, retention, and reactivation~~  
11 ~~of recreational anglers. Seventy percent of recreational anglers~~  
12 ~~surveyed said that unavailability of a 365-day license is their~~  
13 ~~greatest deterrent to purchasing or renewing an annual fishing~~  
14 ~~license. In addition, 51 percent said that licenses were too~~  
15 ~~expensive, 40 percent said that there are too many confusing~~  
16 ~~regulations, and 39 percent said that the fish from department~~  
17 ~~hatcheries were too small and too few in number.~~

18 (5) ~~Information technology, including the new ALDS system~~  
19 ~~that will be implemented on January 1, 2021, can be instrumental~~  
20 ~~in the R3 effort to increase annual sport fishing license sales.~~  
21 ~~Increased sales will provide critical revenue for conservation~~  
22 ~~efforts, including wild fishery stock assessments and habitat~~  
23 ~~restoration, and will enable the department to increase the output~~  
24 ~~of department hatcheries.~~

25 (6) ~~By issuing 365-day sport fishing licenses, implementing a~~  
26 ~~new ALDS system that has an auto-renewal feature and enables~~  
27 ~~licenses and validations to be displayed on mobile devices such~~  
28 ~~as smartphones, and establishing email communication with~~  
29 ~~recreational anglers, the department will drive sales and be able~~  
30 ~~to proactively solicit prospective licensees to achieve the goals of~~  
31 ~~the R3 program.~~

32 (b) ~~It is the intent of the Legislature to recruit, retain, and~~  
33 ~~reactivate recreational anglers to increase revenues to the~~  
34 ~~department for conservation efforts, fishery management, and~~  
35 ~~increased hatchery production, and for economic benefits to the~~  
36 ~~people of the state.~~

37 SEC. 2. ~~Section 1053.1 of the Fish and Game Code is amended~~  
38 ~~to read:~~

39 1053.1. (a) ~~A person shall not obtain more than one license,~~  
40 ~~permit, reservation, or other entitlement of the same class, or more~~



1 than the number of tags authorized by statute or regulation for the  
2 same license year, except under one of the following conditions:

3 (1) ~~Nonresident hunting licenses issued pursuant to paragraphs~~  
4 ~~(4) and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 3031, and short-term sport~~  
5 ~~fishing licenses issued pursuant to paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of~~  
6 ~~subdivision (a) of Section 7149.05.~~

7 (2) ~~The loss or destruction of an unexpired license, tag, permit,~~  
8 ~~reservation, or other entitlement, except a stamp or endorsement,~~  
9 ~~as certified by the applicant's signed affidavit and proof, as~~  
10 ~~determined by the department, that the original license, tag, permit,~~  
11 ~~reservation, or other entitlement was issued, and payment of a base~~  
12 ~~fee of five dollars (\$5). The base fee shall be adjusted annually~~  
13 ~~pursuant to Section 713, not to exceed the fee for the original~~  
14 ~~entitlement, as follows:~~

15 (A) ~~The adjustment shall apply to the hunting license years~~  
16 ~~commencing on or after July 1, 1996.~~

17 (B) ~~The adjustment shall apply to the fishing license years~~  
18 ~~commencing on or after January 1, 1996.~~

19 (3) ~~The loss or destruction of a stamp or endorsement imprinted~~  
20 ~~on a base license and payment of a base fee of three dollars (\$3)~~  
21 ~~for each stamp or endorsement replaced on any base license~~  
22 ~~document, adjusted annually pursuant to Section 713, not to exceed~~  
23 ~~the fee for the original entitlement. The base fee in this paragraph~~  
24 ~~shall apply to the 2011 license year.~~

25 (b) ~~This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations,~~  
26 ~~tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License~~  
27 ~~Data System.~~

28 (c) ~~This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026,~~  
29 ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

30 SEC. 3. ~~Section 1053.1 is added to the Fish and Game Code,~~  
31 ~~to read:~~

32 1053.1. (a) ~~A person shall not obtain more than one license,~~  
33 ~~permit, reservation, or other entitlement of the same class, or more~~  
34 ~~than the number of tags authorized by statute or regulation for the~~  
35 ~~same license year, except under one of the following conditions:~~

36 (1) ~~Nonresident hunting licenses issued pursuant to paragraphs~~  
37 ~~(4) and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 3031.~~

38 (2) ~~The loss or destruction of an unexpired license, tag, permit,~~  
39 ~~reservation, or other entitlement, except a stamp or endorsement,~~  
40 ~~as certified by the applicant's signed affidavit and proof, as~~

1 determined by the department, that the original license, tag, permit,  
2 reservation, or other entitlement was issued, and payment of a base  
3 fee of five dollars (\$5). The base fee shall be adjusted annually  
4 pursuant to Section 713, not to exceed the fee for the original  
5 entitlement, as applicable, to the hunting license years commencing  
6 on or after July 1, 1996.

7 (3) ~~The loss or destruction of a stamp or endorsement imprinted~~  
8 ~~on a base license and payment of a base fee of three dollars (\$3)~~  
9 ~~for each stamp or endorsement replaced on any base license~~  
10 ~~document, adjusted annually pursuant to Section 713, not to exceed~~  
11 ~~the fee for the original entitlement. The base fee in this paragraph~~  
12 ~~shall apply to the 2011 license year.~~

13 (b) ~~This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations,~~  
14 ~~tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License~~  
15 ~~Data System.~~

16 (e) ~~This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.~~

17 SEC. 4. ~~Section 1764 of the Fish and Game Code is amended~~  
18 ~~to read:~~

19 ~~1764. (a) The director shall designate those particular areas~~  
20 ~~of land managed by the department at which possession of a valid~~  
21 ~~annual wildlife pass or day use pass shall be required. No~~  
22 ~~designation shall be effective until a management plan for the area~~  
23 ~~has been presented at a public meeting and the plan has been~~  
24 ~~approved by the director.~~

25 (b) ~~No person shall enter the designated area unless that person~~  
26 ~~possesses an annual wildlife area pass or a day use pass issued~~  
27 ~~pursuant to Section 1765, a valid hunting license issued pursuant~~  
28 ~~to Section 3031, a valid trapping license issued pursuant to Section~~  
29 ~~4006, or a valid sport fishing license issued pursuant to Section~~  
30 ~~7149.05, 7150, or 7151, or that person is a member of a tour by~~  
31 ~~an organized youth or school group that has been issued a day use~~  
32 ~~pass.~~

33 (c) ~~Notwithstanding subdivision (b), possession of a license or~~  
34 ~~pass shall not be required of any person who:~~

35 (1) ~~Is passing through the area on a public right-of-way.~~

36 (2) ~~Possesses authorization by the commission or the department~~  
37 ~~to conduct scientific or educational research.~~

38 (3) ~~Is discharging duties in the course of employment, as~~  
39 ~~specified by the department.~~

1     ~~(4) Possesses written authorization from the department to enter~~  
2     ~~the area for a specific purpose.~~

3     ~~(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026,~~  
4     ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

5     SEC. 5. Section 1764 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to  
6     read:

7     ~~1764. (a) The director shall designate those particular areas~~  
8     ~~of land managed by the department at which possession of a valid~~  
9     ~~annual wildlife pass or day use pass shall be required. No~~  
10    ~~designation shall be effective until a management plan for the area~~  
11    ~~has been presented at a public meeting and the plan has been~~  
12    ~~approved by the director.~~

13    ~~(b) No person shall enter the designated area unless that person~~  
14    ~~possesses an annual wildlife area pass or a day use pass issued~~  
15    ~~pursuant to Section 1765, a valid hunting license issued pursuant~~  
16    ~~to Section 3031, a valid trapping license issued pursuant to Section~~  
17    ~~4006, or a valid sport fishing license issued pursuant to Section~~  
18    ~~7150, 7151, or regulations adopted by the commission, or that~~  
19    ~~person is a member of a tour by an organized youth or school group~~  
20    ~~that has been issued a day use pass.~~

21    ~~(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), possession of a license or~~  
22    ~~pass shall not be required of any person who:~~

23    ~~(1) Is passing through the area on a public right-of-way.~~

24    ~~(2) Possesses authorization by the commission or the department~~  
25    ~~to conduct scientific or educational research.~~

26    ~~(3) Is discharging duties in the course of employment, as~~  
27    ~~specified by the department.~~

28    ~~(4) Possesses written authorization from the department to enter~~  
29    ~~the area for a specific purpose.~~

30    ~~(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.~~

31    SEC. 6. Section 6596.1 of the Fish and Game Code is amended  
32    to read:

33    ~~6596.1. (a) In addition to a valid California sport fishing~~  
34    ~~license and any other applicable license validation issued pursuant~~  
35    ~~to this code, a person taking fish from ocean waters south of a line~~  
36    ~~extending due west from Point Arguello for purposes other than~~  
37    ~~for profit shall have a valid sport fishing ocean enhancement~~  
38    ~~validation permanently affixed to their fishing license. A sport~~  
39    ~~fishing ocean enhancement validation shall be issued upon payment~~  
40    ~~of a base fee of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50). A sport fishing~~

1 license issued pursuant to paragraph (4) or (5) of subdivision (a)  
2 of Section 7149.05 is not subject to this subdivision.

3 ~~(b) In addition to a valid California commercial passenger~~  
4 ~~fishing boat license issued pursuant to Section 7920, the owner of~~  
5 ~~any boat or vessel who, for profit, permits any person to fish from~~  
6 ~~that boat or vessel, south of a line extending due west from Point~~  
7 ~~Arguello, shall have a valid commercial fishing ocean enhancement~~  
8 ~~validation issued for that vessel that has not been suspended or~~  
9 ~~revoked.~~

10 ~~(c) Any person who takes, possesses aboard a boat, or lands any~~  
11 ~~white sea bass for commercial purposes south of a line extending~~  
12 ~~due west from Point Arguello, shall have a valid commercial~~  
13 ~~fishing ocean enhancement validation issued to that person that~~  
14 ~~has not been suspended or revoked.~~

15 ~~(d) The base fee for a commercial ocean fishing enhancement~~  
16 ~~validation is thirty-five dollars (\$35).~~

17 ~~(e) This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations,~~  
18 ~~tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License~~  
19 ~~Data System.~~

20 ~~(f) The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the~~  
21 ~~2004 license year and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant~~  
22 ~~to Section 713.~~

23 ~~(g) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified~~  
24 ~~in subdivision (f), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,~~  
25 ~~all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the~~  
26 ~~department and the commission relating to those licenses.~~

27 ~~(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026,~~  
28 ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

29 ~~SEC. 7. Section 6596.1 is added to the Fish and Game Code,~~  
30 ~~to read:~~

31 ~~6596.1. (a) In addition to a valid California sport fishing~~  
32 ~~license and any other applicable license validation issued pursuant~~  
33 ~~to this code, a person taking fish from ocean waters south of a line~~  
34 ~~extending due west from Point Arguello for purposes other than~~  
35 ~~for profit shall have a valid sport fishing ocean enhancement~~  
36 ~~validation permanently affixed to their fishing license. A sport~~  
37 ~~fishing ocean enhancement validation shall be issued upon payment~~  
38 ~~of a base fee of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50).~~

39 ~~(b) In addition to a valid California commercial passenger~~  
40 ~~fishing boat license issued pursuant to Section 7920, the owner of~~

1 any boat or vessel who, for profit, permits any person to fish from  
2 that boat or vessel, south of a line extending due west from Point  
3 Arguello, shall have a valid commercial fishing ocean enhancement  
4 validation issued for that vessel that has not been suspended or  
5 revoked.

6 (e) ~~Any person who takes, possesses aboard a boat, or lands any~~  
7 ~~white sea bass for commercial purposes south of a line extending~~  
8 ~~due west from Point Arguello shall have a valid commercial fishing~~  
9 ~~ocean enhancement validation issued to that person that has not~~  
10 ~~been suspended or revoked.~~

11 (d) ~~The base fee for a commercial ocean fishing enhancement~~  
12 ~~validation is thirty-five dollars (\$35).~~

13 (e) ~~This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations,~~  
14 ~~tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License~~  
15 ~~Data System.~~

16 (f) ~~The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the~~  
17 ~~2004 license year and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant~~  
18 ~~to Section 713.~~

19 (g) ~~The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified~~  
20 ~~in subdivision (f), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,~~  
21 ~~all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the~~  
22 ~~department and the commission relating to those licenses.~~

23 (h) ~~This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.~~

24 SEC. 8. ~~Section 7149.05 of the Fish and Game Code is~~  
25 ~~amended to read:~~

26 7149.05. (a) ~~A sport fishing license granting the privilege to~~  
27 ~~take any fish, reptile, or amphibian anywhere in this state for~~  
28 ~~purposes other than profit shall be issued to any of the following:~~

29 (1) ~~A resident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of a~~  
30 ~~calendar year, or, if issued after the beginning of the year, for the~~  
31 ~~remainder thereof, upon payment of a base fee of thirty-one dollars~~  
32 ~~and twenty-five cents (\$31.25).~~

33 (2) ~~A nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of a~~  
34 ~~calendar year, or, if issued after the beginning of the year, for the~~  
35 ~~remainder thereof, upon payment of a base fee of eighty-four~~  
36 ~~dollars (\$84).~~

37 (3) ~~A nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of 10~~  
38 ~~consecutive days beginning on the date specified on the license~~  
39 ~~upon payment of the fee set forth in paragraph (1).~~

1     ~~(4) A resident or nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for two~~  
2 ~~designated days, upon payment of one-half the fee set forth in~~  
3 ~~paragraph (1). Notwithstanding Section 1053.1, more than one~~  
4 ~~single day license issued for different days may be issued to, or~~  
5 ~~possessed by, a person at one time.~~

6     ~~(5) A resident or nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for one~~  
7 ~~designated day upon payment of a base fee of ten dollars (\$10).~~

8     ~~(b) No later than January 1, 2021, the department shall enable~~  
9 ~~licenses and validations to be displayed on an electronic mobile~~  
10 ~~device.~~

11     ~~(c) California sport fishing license validations shall be issued~~  
12 ~~by authorized license agents in the same manner as sport fishing~~  
13 ~~licenses, and no compensation shall be paid to the authorized~~  
14 ~~license agent for issuing the validations except as provided in~~  
15 ~~Section 1055.1.~~

16     ~~(d) This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations,~~  
17 ~~tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License~~  
18 ~~Data System.~~

19     ~~(e) The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the~~  
20 ~~2004 license year, and shall be adjusted annually thereafter~~  
21 ~~pursuant to Section 713.~~

22     ~~(f) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified~~  
23 ~~in subdivision (e), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,~~  
24 ~~all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the~~  
25 ~~department and the commission relating to those licenses.~~

26     ~~(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021,~~  
27 ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

28     ~~SEC. 9. Section 7149.05 is added to the Fish and Game Code,~~  
29 ~~to read:~~

30     ~~7149.05. (a) A sport fishing license granting the privilege to~~  
31 ~~take any fish, reptile, or amphibian anywhere in this state for~~  
32 ~~purposes other than profit shall be issued to any of the following:~~

33     ~~(1) A resident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of 12~~  
34 ~~consecutive months beginning on the date specified on the license,~~  
35 ~~upon payment of a base fee of thirty-one dollars and twenty-five~~  
36 ~~cents (\$31.25).~~

37     ~~(2) A nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of 12~~  
38 ~~consecutive months beginning on the date specified on the license,~~  
39 ~~upon payment of a base fee of eighty-four dollars (\$84).~~

~~(3) A nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for the period of 10 consecutive days beginning on the date specified on the license upon payment of the fee set forth in paragraph (1).~~

~~(4) A resident or nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for 2 designated days, upon payment of one-half of the fee set forth in paragraph (1). Notwithstanding Section 1053.1, more than one single day license issued for different days may be issued to, or possessed by, a person at one time.~~

~~(5) A resident or nonresident, 16 years of age or older, for 1 designated day upon payment of a base fee of ten dollars (\$10).~~

~~(b) An applicant for a sport fishing license issued pursuant to this section shall provide, with the application, the applicant's email address. An applicant shall agree to receive email communications from the department, or, on the department's behalf, from the contractor operating the department's Automated License Data System, regarding purchase, renewal, or reactivation of sport fishing licenses.~~

~~(c) The department shall provide applicants the option to sign up for automatic renewal of a sport fishing license issued pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) by automatic credit card or debit card payment or electronic funds transfer. The department shall provide a person who signs up for automatic renewal with advance notice of renewal, including the date of the scheduled renewal fee charge.~~

~~(d) The department shall enable licenses and validations to be displayed on an electronic mobile device.~~

~~(e) California sport fishing license validations shall be issued by authorized license agents in the same manner as sport fishing licenses, and no compensation shall be paid to the authorized license agent for issuing the validations except as provided in Section 1055.1.~~

~~(f) This section applies only to licenses, permits, reservations, tags, and other entitlements issued through the Automated License Data System.~~

~~(g) The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the 2004 license year and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant to Section 713.~~

~~(h) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified in subdivision (g), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,~~

~~all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the department and the commission relating to those licenses.~~

~~(i) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.~~

~~(j) (1) On or before December 1, 2024, the department shall submit to the Legislature a written report on the implementation of the 12-month licensing periods that are reflected in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) and the requirements imposed by subdivisions (b) to (d), inclusive.~~

~~(2) A report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.~~

~~(k) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026, and as of that date is repealed.~~

~~SEC. 10. Section 7149.2 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:~~

~~7149.2. (a) In addition to Section 7149.05, the department shall issue a lifetime sport fishing license under this section. A lifetime sport fishing license authorizes the taking of fish, amphibians, or reptiles anywhere in this state in accordance with the law for purposes other than profit for the life of the person to whom issued unless revoked for a violation of this code or regulations adopted under this code. A lifetime sport fishing license is valid for a one-year period from January 1 through December 31 and may be renewed annually, regardless of any lapse of the license, at no additional cost to the licensee. A lifetime sport fishing license is not transferable. A lifetime sport fishing license does not include any special tags, stamps, or fees.~~

~~(b) A lifetime sport fishing license may be issued to residents of this state, as follows:~~

~~(1) To a person 62 years of age or over, upon payment of a base fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).~~

~~(2) To a person 40 years of age or over and less than 62 years of age, upon payment of a base fee of five hundred forty dollars (\$540).~~

~~(3) To a person 10 years of age or over and less than 40 years of age upon payment of a base fee of six hundred dollars (\$600).~~

~~(4) To a person less than 10 years of age upon payment of a base fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).~~



~~(c) Nothing in this section requires a person less than 16 years of age to obtain a license to take fish, amphibians, or reptiles for purposes other than profit.~~

~~(d) Nothing in this section exempts a license applicant from meeting other qualifications or requirements otherwise established by law for the privilege of sport fishing.~~

~~(e) Upon payment of a base fee of two hundred forty-five dollars (\$245), a person holding a lifetime sport fishing license shall be entitled annually to the privileges afforded to a person holding a second-rod stamp or validation issued pursuant to Section 7149.45, a sport fishing ocean enhancement stamp or validation issued pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 6596.1, one steelhead trout fishing report-restoration card issued pursuant to Section 7380, and one salmon report card issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission. Lifetime privileges issued pursuant to this subdivision are not transferable.~~

~~(f) The base fees specified in this section are applicable commencing January 1, 2004, and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant to Section 713.~~

~~(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026, and as of that date is repealed.~~

~~SEC. 11. Section 7149.2 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to read:~~

~~7149.2.—(a) In addition to other sport fishing licenses, if any, issued pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission, the department shall issue a lifetime sport fishing license under this section. A lifetime sport fishing license authorizes the taking of fish, amphibians, or reptiles anywhere in this state in accordance with the law for purposes other than profit for the life of the person to whom this license is issued unless revoked for a violation of this code or regulations adopted under this code. A lifetime sport fishing license is valid for a one-year period from January 1 through December 31 and may be renewed annually, regardless of any lapse of the license, at no additional cost to the licensee. A lifetime sport fishing license is not transferable. A lifetime sport fishing license does not include any special tags, stamps, or fees.~~

~~(b) A lifetime sport fishing license may be issued to residents of this state, as follows:~~

~~(1) To a person 62 years of age or over, upon payment of a base fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).~~

1     ~~(2) To a person 40 years of age or over and less than 62 years~~  
2     ~~of age, upon payment of a base fee of five hundred forty dollars~~  
3     ~~(\$540).~~

4     ~~(3) To a person 10 years of age or over and less than 40 years~~  
5     ~~of age upon payment of a base fee of six hundred dollars (\$600).~~

6     ~~(4) To a person under 10 years of age upon payment of a base~~  
7     ~~fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).~~

8     ~~(e) Nothing in this section requires a person under 16 years of~~  
9     ~~age to obtain a license to take fish, amphibians, or reptiles for~~  
10    ~~purposes other than profit.~~

11    ~~(d) Nothing in this section exempts a license applicant from~~  
12    ~~meeting other qualifications or requirements otherwise established~~  
13    ~~by law for the privilege of sport fishing.~~

14    ~~(e) Upon payment of a base fee of two hundred forty-five dollars~~  
15    ~~(\$245), a person holding a lifetime sport fishing license shall be~~  
16    ~~entitled annually to the privileges afforded to a person holding a~~  
17    ~~second-rod stamp or validation issued pursuant to Section 7149.45,~~  
18    ~~a sport fishing ocean enhancement stamp or validation issued~~  
19    ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 6596.1, one steelhead trout~~  
20    ~~fishing report restoration card issued pursuant to Section 7380,~~  
21    ~~and one salmon report card issued pursuant to regulations adopted~~  
22    ~~by the commission. Lifetime privileges issued pursuant to this~~  
23    ~~subdivision are not transferable.~~

24    ~~(f) The base fees specified in this section are applicable~~  
25    ~~commencing January 1, 2004, and shall be adjusted annually~~  
26    ~~thereafter pursuant to Section 713.~~

27    ~~(i) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.~~

28    ~~SEC. 12. Section 7149.3 of the Fish and Game Code is~~  
29    ~~amended to read:~~

30    ~~7149.3. Notwithstanding Section 7145, a sport fishing license~~  
31    ~~is not required for a resident to take a rattlesnake (genus Crotalus~~  
32    ~~or Sistrurus).~~

33    ~~SEC. 13. Section 7150 of the Fish and Game Code is amended~~  
34    ~~to read:~~

35    ~~7150. (a) Upon application to the department's headquarters~~  
36    ~~office in Sacramento and payment of a base fee of four dollars~~  
37    ~~(\$4), as adjusted pursuant to Section 713, the following persons,~~  
38    ~~who have not been convicted of any violation of this code, shall~~  
39    ~~be issued a reduced fee sport fishing license that is valid for one~~  
40    ~~year as specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) of~~

1 Section 7149.05 and that authorizes the licensee to take any fish,  
2 reptile, or amphibians anywhere in this state as otherwise  
3 authorized pursuant to this code and regulations adopted pursuant  
4 thereto for purposes other than profit:

5 (1) A disabled veteran having a 50 percent or greater  
6 service-connected disability upon presentation of proof of an  
7 honorable discharge from military service and proof of the  
8 disability. Proof of the disability shall be by certification from the  
9 United States Veterans Administration or by presentation of a  
10 license issued pursuant to this paragraph in the preceeding license  
11 year.

12 (2) A member of the military who is a “recovering service  
13 member” pursuant to paragraph (7) of Section 1602 of the federal  
14 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (10  
15 U.S.C. Sec. 1071 note). A person shall be eligible for a reduced  
16 fee sport fishing license pursuant to this paragraph upon the  
17 submission of a letter, online or in hardcopy, to the department  
18 from that person’s commanding officer or from a military medical  
19 doctor stating that the person is a recovering service member.

20 (3) A person over 65 years of age who is a resident of this state  
21 and whose total monthly income from all sources, including any  
22 old age assistance payments, does not exceed the amount in effect  
23 on September 1 of each year contained in subdivision (c) of Section  
24 12200 of the Welfare and Institutions Code for single persons or  
25 subdivision (d) of Section 12200 of the Welfare and Institutions  
26 Code combined income for married persons, as adjusted pursuant  
27 to that section. The amount in effect on September 1 of each year  
28 shall be the amount used to determine eligibility for a reduced fee  
29 license during the following calendar year.

30 (b) A person applying for a reduced fee sport fishing license  
31 shall submit adequate documentation for the department to  
32 determine whether the applicant is, in fact, eligible for a reduced  
33 fee sport fishing license. The documentation shall be in the form  
34 of a letter or other document, as specified by the department, from  
35 a public agency, except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of  
36 subdivision (a). The department shall not issue a reduced fee sport  
37 fishing license to any person unless it is satisfied that the applicant  
38 has provided adequate documentation of eligibility for that license.

1     ~~(e) The adjustment of the base fee pursuant to Section 713~~  
2 ~~specified in subdivision (a) shall be applicable to the fishing license~~  
3 ~~years beginning on or after January 1, 1996.~~

4     ~~(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026,~~  
5 ~~and as of that date is repealed.~~

6     ~~SEC. 14. Section 7150 is added to the Fish and Game Code,~~  
7 ~~to read:~~

8     ~~7150. (a) Upon application to the department's headquarters~~  
9 ~~office in Sacramento and payment of a base fee of four dollars~~  
10 ~~(\$4), as adjusted pursuant to Section 713, the following persons,~~  
11 ~~who have not been convicted of any violation of this code, shall~~  
12 ~~be issued a reduced fee sport fishing license that is valid for one~~  
13 ~~year and that authorizes the licensee to take any fish, reptile, or~~  
14 ~~amphibians anywhere in this state as otherwise authorized pursuant~~  
15 ~~to this code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto for purposes~~  
16 ~~other than profit.~~

17     ~~(1) A disabled veteran having a 50 percent or greater~~  
18 ~~service-connected disability upon presentation of proof of an~~  
19 ~~honorable discharge from military service and proof of the~~  
20 ~~disability. Proof of the disability shall be by certification from the~~  
21 ~~United States Department of Veterans Affairs or by presentation~~  
22 ~~of a license issued pursuant to this paragraph in the preceeding~~  
23 ~~license year.~~

24     ~~(2) A member of the military who is a "recovering service~~  
25 ~~member" pursuant to paragraph (7) of Section 1602 of the federal~~  
26 ~~National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (10~~  
27 ~~U.S.C. Sec. 1071 note). A person shall be eligible for a reduced~~  
28 ~~fee sport fishing license pursuant to this paragraph upon the~~  
29 ~~submission of a letter, online or in hardcopy, to the department~~  
30 ~~from that person's commanding officer or from a military medical~~  
31 ~~doctor stating that the person is a recovering service member.~~

32     ~~(3) A person over 65 years of age who is a resident of this state~~  
33 ~~and whose total monthly income from all sources, including any~~  
34 ~~old age assistance payments, does not exceed the amount in effect~~  
35 ~~on September 1 of each year contained in subdivision (c) of Section~~  
36 ~~12200 of the Welfare and Institutions Code for single persons or~~  
37 ~~subdivision (d) of Section 12200 of the Welfare and Institutions~~  
38 ~~Code combined income for married persons, as adjusted pursuant~~  
39 ~~to that section. The amount in effect on September 1 of each year~~

- 1 shall be the amount used to determine eligibility for a reduced fee  
2 license during the following calendar year.
- 3 ~~(b) A person applying for a reduced fee sport fishing license~~  
4 ~~shall submit adequate documentation for the department to~~  
5 ~~determine whether the applicant is, in fact, eligible for a reduced~~  
6 ~~fee sport fishing license. The documentation shall be in the form~~  
7 ~~of a letter or other document, as specified by the department, from~~  
8 ~~a public agency, except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of~~  
9 ~~subdivision (a). The department shall not issue a reduced fee sport~~  
10 ~~fishing license to any person unless it is satisfied that the applicant~~  
11 ~~has provided adequate documentation of eligibility for that license.~~
- 12 ~~(c) The adjustment of the base fee pursuant to Section 713~~  
13 ~~specified in subdivision (a) shall be applicable to the fishing license~~  
14 ~~years beginning on or after January 1, 1996.~~
- 15 ~~(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.~~

# **California Fish and Game Commission**

## **Developing a Delta Fisheries Management Policy**

*Revised June 3, 2019*

Since 2012, the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) has been engaged with stakeholders and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) in discussions about managing fisheries in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta). In response to a petition (#2016-001) to change fishing regulations for striped and black bass in the Delta, the Commission requested that its Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) explore the issue more comprehensively with stakeholders and the Department.

In May 2017, WRC held a half-day forum focused on the State's vision for managing fisheries in the Delta for the benefit of native fish species and sport fisheries, the implementation of the State's vision, and soliciting stakeholder input on potential actions FGC could consider related to this topic. In October 2017, the Commission approved WRC's recommendation to approve the recommendations from the forum, including developing and adopting a Delta fisheries management policy that:

1. aligns with the State's goals for the Delta,
2. supports more holistic management of the Delta,
3. encourages interagency coordination and collaboration,
4. requires integration of the best available science into decision-making, and
5. clarifies the Commission's management goals for both listed species and sport fisheries in the Delta.

A draft policy has been developed to reflect the stated goals, taking into consideration the original petition and stakeholder input.

### **Draft Delta Fisheries Management Policy**

**[Additions proposed by WRC are underlined.]**

It is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission that:

- I. The Commission and Department shall seek to collaborate and coordinate with other agencies with jurisdiction over species and other resources in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and its tributaries as they manage fisheries, state and federally listed fish species, such as salmonids and smelt, and other aquatic resources.
- II. The Commission and Department shall strive to manage these resources holistically, sustainably, and consistent with the direction of the legislature to protect, restore, and enhance the Delta ecosystem.
- III. The Department shall rely on the best available science to develop strategies and recommendations for managing fisheries and listed species in the Delta. Using this information, the Department shall strive to improve habitat conditions for and alleviate threats to listed species.
- IV. The Department shall manage listed fish species to protect and enhance each species' abundance, distribution, and genetic integrity to support each species' resiliency and recovery.

- V. The Department shall manage Delta fisheries in a manner that provides for sustainable angling opportunities while minimizing adverse effects to native and listed species and recovery activities.
- VI. Based on current best available science and evaluations of past management of Delta fisheries, the Commission and Department shall not develop or enhance fisheries in the Delta which may pose a direct threat to the survival of, or significantly limit, recovery of a listed species.
- VII. To the extent feasible, the Commission and Department shall support scientific research to help advance the policy goals set forth herein. The Department should consider identified research needs when developing research plans, making research funding decisions, and when reviewing and/or authorizing research projects. The Department may consider the permitted scientific sampling of non-native fish outside sport fishing size and bag limits to advance scientific research to support native species in the Delta, where statutorily permitted and practical. Where feasible, the Department should encourage and permit recreational anglers to contribute to scientific research on predator-prey relationships to help inform efforts to protect native species.

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**From:** John Harris

**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 05:13 PM

**To:** Macintyre, Kirsten@Wildlife; FGC; Bloom, Roger@Wildlife; [harry.moore@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:harry.moore@wildlife.ca.gov)

**Subject:** Proposed New Fishing Regulations

Dear Commissioners and Ms MacIntyre and Mssrs. Bloom and Moore,

Please consider my comments with regard to the proposed new fishing regulations, particularly as they apply to the Eastern High Sierras and Inyo and Mono Counties.

While I am sure that a lot of well intended thought and effort went into the proposals, I know without question that they would be devastating for our local economies and to fish and fisherman.

#### OPENING DAY PROPOSED CHANGE

Perhaps the worst proposal for our economy is the idea of changing opening day to anything other than the 4th Saturday in April.

I suspect that weekend has been a family and friendship annual event for 4 or 5 generations of regular visitors to our area. Literally thousands of visitors time all or part of their vacations for that fourth weekend in April. Our motels, restaurants, gas stations, tackle shops, resort operators, guides and a host of other businesses and all their workers rely on this tradition to continue. Some businesses will go out of business if you take away a full month of their season.

Fish-mas, as we call it, is a, if not the, main event of our local economies. Changing it to the end of May would conflict with our other greatest visitor draw event, Mule days on the Memorial weekend and probably result in thousands staying away from both events rather than suffer through the crowds of people with often dissimilar interests competing for too few motels, restaurants, campsites, boat rentals and other businesses.

#### YEAR AROUND FISHING PROPOSAL

Year round fishing would also have huge adverse consequences in at least two different ways.

.First, you already are severely hurting our economies by stocking too few fish. We are a tourist economy and fishing is the the main tourism draw.

We need at least two or three times the number of fish stocked that we have been getting the last few years. Spread thinner over a full year, the fishing would be even worse than it has become in recent years and fewer and fewer people would choose to visit and vacation here. To preserve the local economies and draw visitors and even many local fishermen, more fish stocking is already necessary. Are you planning to at least double it for the extended season? It needs to be more than doubled even for the present season.

Second, the manpower to enforce regulations, free vehicles from snow and mud and save people who fall through the ice just does not exist. You can be absolutely guaranteed that allowing fishing during the closed season will result and people falling through the ice and drowning and freezing to death. At least now, when the majority or all of the ice fishing is compacted into the opening week of fishing, there is safety in numbers. Further, there is generally good fishing when no one has been allowed fish in the last half year and it would be poor if others had the advantage of fishing all year round. Who will clean up after the year round fishermen when the concessionaires are closed for months at a time? Year round fishing in the high country will result in death, litter and contamination and poorer fishing and probably reduced license sales which I suspect are already going down because of reduced stocking and poor fishing.

#### SIMPLIFICATION

The whole concept of simplification is both unnecessary and undesirable.

One size does not fit all (nor do six).

Obviously, the greatest simplifications would be: 1. to close all fishing all year by all methods, or 2. open it all year by all methods without limits. Neither those draconian alternatives nor the six proposed are going to work well in many, many places.

Different waters need different approaches. You need to close streams during the spawning seasons in those streams that support spawning fish. Over fished lakes and rivers need to be periodically closed for the fish populations to recover. Lakes that are frozen six months a year should be closed to fishing except when access is safe and sufficient manpower is present for safety and sanitation.

What is needed is not less regulations or more simplifications. It is far more stocking and lower license fees and year round licenses from the date of issue and regulations geared to each water.



We all have smart cell phones, laptops and tablets that can give us regulations instantly for any area. Combine the regulations with GPS technology and no one will have an excuse for not knowing the rules and each water can be governed in the best way for the fish and people who enjoy trying to catch them, which is, or should be, our goal..

#### WHAT IS NEEDED

What is needed is not less regulations or more simplifications. It is far more stocking and lower license fees and year round licenses from the date of issue.and regulations geared to each water with modern methods of communication which are readily available.

#### PROVE THEM WRONG

Along with a large crowd in a packed pavilion, I attended the public comment meeting on March 20, 2019, in Bishop, California. It was my impression that the vast majority there were against the proposed regulation changes. Certainly every business owner was against them.

However, the worst part of the gathering was the feeling that most people thought the whole session was a mock hearing and that the Department of Fish and Wildlife had already decided what it would do before any of the hearings. Your Department has done a tremendous amount of good in the past. This rampant distrust of your Department was really very sad to see.

Please prove the skeptics in fair government wrong and take into serious consideration the comments of those who attended the meeting or took the time to comment.

Thank you for your consideration.

John F. Harris

Sent from [AOL Desktop](#)

John F. Harris  
Attorney at Law  
S.B. 37969

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COMMISSION

## Alpine Signs

2019 APR 30 AM 11:30

**From:** "Alpine Signs" <Mail@AlpineSigns.com>  
**Date:** Monday, April 22, 2019 6:08 PM  
**To:** <fgc@fgc.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed state wide finshing regulation NEW "Simplify" version

To who it may concern:

This is my response to the new proposed "simplified" version of the fishing regulations: Please read below:

1. The proposed new fishing regulations will decimate the economy in Inyo and Mono Counties because small towns along Highway 395 (Bridgeport, Mammoth Lakes, Bishop, Big Pine, Independence and Lone Pine) are extremely dependent on existing fishing season and fishing opener on last Saturday in April. The quality of fishing will immediately decline due to year round fishing pressure and no additional stocking. The canal in Bishop, where natives spawn will be fished out within the first year.
2. The proposed new "fishing opener" is Memorial Day weekend. Memorial Day weekend is already 100% booked in Bishop and most of Inyo County due to Mule Days Celebration. In addition, campgrounds are not open at that time, so fishermen will simply camp wherever they can next to creeks and lakes.
3. No scientific evidence has been produced by CDFW to show these changes will benefit the fishery.
4. There is no plan or budget to study aftermath of proposed new regulations.
5. Is CDFW Planning on hiking in to South lake, Sabrina and all other high country lakes? Not nearly enough manpower for enforcement. Trying to say fishermen won't have access is not a valid point as during drought winters, access is easy.
6. Is search and rescue prepared to take on additional workload? No doubt fishermen will fall through ice. Not a question of "if". It's a question of how many will die.  
Easy access with plowed roads include but not limited to:
  - Crowley lake at crooked creek arm.
  - Intake two in Bishop Creek Canyon.
  - Mammoth Lakes Basin at Twin Lakes and via Mammoth cross country ski trails.
  - June Lake and Gull Lake at June Lake Loop
7. What is the true end game for these changes? "Simplification" isn't a good enough answer. This will actually complicate our local economy.
8. Please keep 18" min at Crowley. The quality of fishing at Crowley has already declined quite a bit.
9. Fishermen and their dogs will trample through sensitive spawning beds while trout are spawning.

10. Sanitation problems: No water, restrooms nor trash receptacles will be available at Crowley and all high country lakes. Streams and Lakes will get more polluted with feces and trash.

11. In the Eastern sierra, current regulations are working fine. Please do not "fix it" if it's not broken.

12. 80% of Californians surveyed by CDFW are happy with current fishing seasons and regulations.

13. No Environmental Impact Review has been submitted for proposed regulation change.

14. No Economic Impact Review has been done for all the towns in the Eastern Sierra.

15. My proposal is to keep regulations the way they are in the Eastern Sierra and make the Eastern Sierra it's own region.

In a final response to this:

These changes will not "Simplify" anything. These new proposals have no merit, no data, nothing but a few people in you department that do not represent our area opinion. There is regard for local economies in the Eastern sierra or for the fisheries. If these changes go through all I see is a decimation of our fisheries and our economy and it will effect future generations to come. I live and work in the Inyo county fisheries and see no reason for these changes except to eradicate the fish and our economy in the INYO and MONO counties. Please do not allow these new proposed changes go into effect in our communities.

Sincerely,  
Caryn Todd

Carolyn J. Webb  
HC62 Box 1065  
Bridgeport CA 93517  
760.647.6484  
vlresort@wildblue.net

RECEIVED  
CALIFORNIA  
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2019 APR 29 PM 12:30

April 26, 2019

Eric Sklar, President  
California Fish and Game Commission  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento CA 94244-2090

Dear Mr. Sklar,

I wanted to provide some input for the 2020 Proposed Regulations for Inland Waters, in particular Inyo and Mono Counties where there are a lot of special regulations.

1. **Streams** - These waters were given special regulations because of their significant habitat for spawning fish, or a particular species of trout and removing them will take away that protection that the CA DFW put in place. Initially a lot of time, effort funding and concern for the resource were taken into consideration when these regulations were put in place. Six sizes do not fit all the waters you want to implement this change. The Kern River and its tributaries should never be touched as it holds a native population of Golden Trout for which California is known for.

2. **Lakes** - There are many lakes above 6000 foot elevation that freeze and thaw after the regular trout season closes and opens respectively. The possible danger to anglers during the first freeze is very high due to the thin ice condition. This is also true for when lakes start to thaw; it's very deceiving. Most people will not understand and I know this first hand as my husband and I have owned and operated a fishing resort for 45 years.

3. **Regulation Enforcement and Communication Services** - There are very few places off the main highway that have cell service or Internet due to the logistics of the mountains that surround a majority of these waters that freeze during the winter months. There will be accidents due to the cold water being exposed to rewarming **shock** (or rewarming **collapse**) which is a sudden drop in blood pressure in combination with a low cardiac output which may occur during active treatment of a severely **hypothermic** person. There is always a high risk of possibly fatal accidents.

4. **Altitude Sickness** - The mildest form being acute mountain **sickness** (AMS), is the negative health effect of high **altitude**, caused by rapid exposure to low amounts of oxygen at high elevation. Symptoms may include headaches, vomiting, tiredness, trouble sleeping, and dizziness. AMS can affect anyone, hikers, children, healthy adults and anyone with heart or breathing problems need to get to lower elevation immediately.



5. **CDFW has an "APP"** for phones about the specific regulations where ever you are located and will provide even more information within approximately 5 mile radius if they are in an area where they get cell service. Currently there are 19 US States and the Bahamas have this type APP and California has added their regulations, satellite view maps, no resets during use, and appropriate prohibited area messages are shown. There is no reason for anglers in California not to be informed about the water they wish to fish. Go to: <https://fishrulesapp.com/>

6. **Winter Services** - All summer services terminate just prior to the season closing due to temperatures and/or end of legal trout season. Sanitation and litter will be a major problem if these services are not available. Who will clean up after the winter visitors? All agencies are under budgeted as it is especially Forest Service which received another huge cut for 2019. California doesn't have enough Wardens to patrol these added areas assuming that people will fish during the winter months. A lot of people will at least try ice fishing in the dead of winter where conditions change rapidly and anglers not familiar with winter conditions will be subject to finding a safe place to ride out the storm. White-outs are also a huge problem in the Eastern Sierra creating highway closures and where will anglers find shelter if services are not available. There are 40 million people in California, and some of them will attempt to fish frozen lakes either early, late or in the dead of winter.

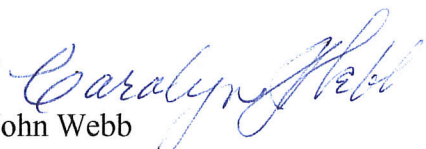
7. **Feasibility of Regulation Simplification** - Although this is desirable, it is not feasible. What is needed is a drop in license fees with a 365 day fishing license (from date of purchase), drop the required age to 15 and stay with your mission statement and your new Core Values as stated in your letter of December 2018, which is very impressive.

Our request is that you leave the entire Eastern Sierra out of these changes especially from south Inyo County to north end of Mono County. In addition, the Kern River and it's tributaries need their current regulations in place to reduce harvest i.e., larger fish over smaller fish or vice versa. Diversity in California is unsurpassed and should be treated as such within each region.

Also, when the ALDS licensing program was initiated, California lost 250 license agents due to the lack of available Internet, dedicated hard line and other financial restrictions that the Department implemented at the Agent's cost. I would like to see some type of paper license made available (reinstated somehow) to these Agents in order to add to the revenue for The Department and as a benefit to anglers in very rural areas. No, they will not get their funds for licenses as they are sold, but on a monthly basis as before. This would be done on a merit system for previous agents from their payment history.

The Bishop meeting regarding the proposed regulations hosted by Roger Bloom and James Erdman was well attended and many voiced their opinions as I did. At the beginning of the meeting one gentlemen stood up and asked the attendees "who is NOT in favor of these changes" and almost every hand in the room went up. People in rural California take their fishing and hunting very serious and it seems that the Fish and Game Commission should take these "people" just as serious.

Best Regards,

  
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