

California Fish and Game Commission
Wildlife Resources Committee
Meeting Binder



September 10, 2019

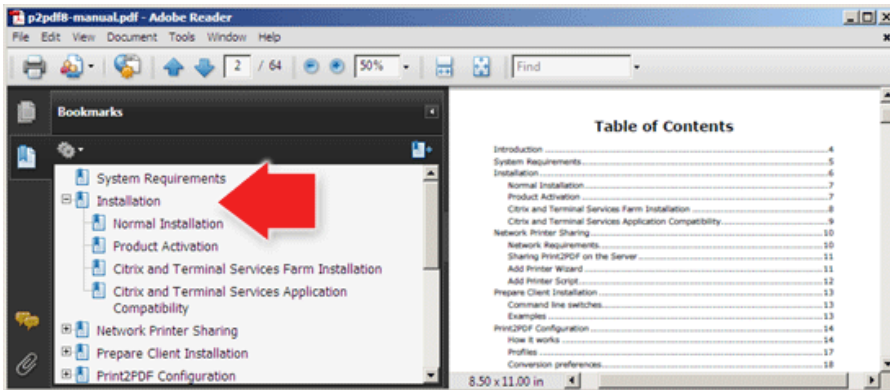
Santa Rosa

EASY GUIDE TO USING THE BINDER

1. Download and open the binder document using your Adobe Acrobat program/app.
2. If a bookmark panel does not automatically appear on either the top or left side of the screen, click/tap on the “bookmark symbol” located near the top left-hand corner.



3. To make adjustments to the view, use the Page Display option in the View tab. You should see something like:



4. We suggest leaving open the bookmark panel to help you move efficiently among the staff summaries and numerous supporting documents in the binder. It’s helpful to think of these bookmarks as a table of contents that allows you to go to specific points in the binder without having to scroll through hundreds of pages.
5. You can resize the two panels by placing your cursor in the dark, vertical line located between the panels and using a long click /tap to move in either direction. ←|→
6. You may also adjust the sizing of the documents by adjusting the sizing preferences located on the Page Display icons found in the top toolbar or in the View tab.
7. Upon locating a staff summary for an agenda item, notice that you can obtain more information by clicking/tapping on any item underlined in blue.
8. Return to the staff summary by simply clicking/tapping on the item in the bookmark panel.
9. Do not hesitate to contact staff if you have any questions or would like assistance.

OVERVIEW OF FISH AND GAME COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEETING

- Welcome to this meeting of the _____ Committee. The Committee is comprised of up to two Commissioners who co-chair each meeting; members are assigned by the Commission annually.
- Our goal today is informed discussion to guide future decision making, and, we need your cooperation to ensure a lively and comprehensive dialogue.
- We are operating under Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, but it is important to note that the Committee chairs cannot take action independent of the full Commission; instead, the chairs make recommendations to the full Commission at regularly scheduled meetings.
- These proceedings may be recorded and posted to our website for reference and archival purposes.
- Items may be heard in any order pursuant to the determination of the Committee Co-Chairs.
- In the unlikely event of an emergency, please locate the nearest emergency exits.
- Restrooms are located _____.
- As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be redirected to the full Commission and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, titled “Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change” (Section 662, Title 14, CCR). However, at the Committee’s discretion, the Committee may request that staff follow up on items of potential interest to the Committee and possible recommendation to the Commission.
- Committee meetings operate informally and provide opportunity for everyone to provide comment on agenda items. If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please follow these guidelines:
 1. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Committee.
 2. Provide your name, affiliation (if any), and the number of people you represent.
 3. Time is limited; please keep your comments precise to give others time to speak.
 4. If several speakers have the same concerns, please appoint a group spokesperson.
 5. If you would like to present handouts or written materials to the Committee, please provide five copies to the designated staff member just prior to speaking.
 6. If speaking during public comment, the subject matter you present should not be related to any item on the current agenda (public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the Committee members discuss that item).
- **Warning!** Laser pointers may only be used by a speaker doing a presentation.

INTRODUCTIONS FOR FISH AND GAME COMMISSION WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONERS

Russell E. Burns	Co-Chair (Napa)
Eric Sklar	Co-Chair (Saint Helena)

COMMISSION STAFF

Melissa Miller-Henson	Acting Executive Director
Ari Cornman	Wildlife Advisor
Craig Castleton	Analyst

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Stafford Lehr	Deputy Director, Wildlife and Fisheries Division
Kevin Shaffer	Chief, Fisheries Branch
Kari Lewis	Chief, Wildlife Branch
Karen Mitchell	Senior Environmental Scientist, Fisheries Branch
Patrick Foy	Captain, Law Enforcement Division
Brad Burkholder	Environmental Program Manager, Wildlife Branch

I would also like to acknowledge special guests who are present:
(i.e., key DFW staff, elected officials, tribal chairpersons, other special guests)

Commissioners
Eric Sklar, President
Saint Helena
Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Vice President
McKinleyville
Russell E. Burns, Member
Napa
Peter S. Silva, Member
Jamul
Samantha Murray, Member
Del Mar

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Gavin Newsom, Governor

Melissa Miller-Henson
Acting Executive Director
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
(916) 653-4899
fgc@fgc.ca.gov
www.fgc.ca.gov

Fish and Game Commission



Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870

WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Committee Chairs: Commissioner Sklar and Commissioner Burns

Meeting Agenda

September 10, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

Justice Joseph A. Rattigan Building
Conference Room 410 (4th Floor)
50 D Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

This meeting will be audio-recorded and made available to the public.

NOTE: Please see important meeting procedures and information at the end of the agenda. Unless otherwise indicated, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is identified as Department. All agenda items are informational and/or discussion only. The Committee develops recommendations to the Commission but does not have authority to make policy or regulatory decisions on behalf of the Commission.

Call to order

1. Approve agenda and order of items

2. Public comment for items not on the agenda

The Committee may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this item, except to consider whether to recommend that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting. [Sections 11125, 11125.7(a), Government Code]

3. Department updates

The Department will highlight items of note since the last Committee meeting.

- (A) Wildlife Branch
- (B) Fisheries Branch
- (C) Law Enforcement Division

4. Initial recommendations for 2020-21 regulations

Identify and discuss upland game bird hunting regulations for the 2020-21 seasons.

- 5. Committee recommendations for 2020-21 regulations**
Discuss and consider approving recommendations for the following 2019-20 seasons:
 - (A) Mammal hunting
 - (B) Waterfowl hunting
 - (C) Central Valley Chinook sport fishing
 - (D) Klamath River Basin sport fishing

- 6. Simplification of statewide inland fishing regulations**
Receive an update on the statewide sportfish regulations revision and simplification project.

- 7. Bullfrogs and non-native turtles**
Receive an update on implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan.

- 8. Future agenda items**
 - (A) Review work plan agenda topics and timeline
 - (B) Potential new agenda topics for Commission consideration

Adjourn

California Fish and Game Commission 2019 Meeting Schedule

Note: As meeting dates and locations can change, please visit www.fgc.ca.gov for the most current list of meeting dates and locations.

Meeting Date	Commission Meeting	Committee Meeting
October 8		Tribal Rincon Government Center One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA 92082
October 9-10	Rincon Government Center One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA 92082	
November 5		Marine Resources Natural Resources Building 12 th Floor Conference Room 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1206 Sacramento, CA 95814
December 11-12	Natural Resources Building Auditorium, First Floor 1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	

OTHER 2019 MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

- September 22-25, Saint Paul, MN

Pacific Fishery Management Council

- September 11-18, Boise, ID
- November 13-20, Costa Mesa, CA

Wildlife Conservation Board

- November 21, Sacramento, CA

IMPORTANT COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES INFORMATION

Welcome to a meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission's Wildlife Resources Committee. The Committee is chaired by up to two Commissioners; these assignments are made by the Commission.

The goal of the Committee is to allow greater time to investigate issues before the Commission than would otherwise be possible. Committee meetings are less formal in nature and provide for additional access to the Commission. The Committee follows the noticing requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. It is important to note that the Committee chairs cannot take action independent of the full Commission; instead, the chairs make recommendations to the full Commission at regularly scheduled meetings.

The Commission's goal is the preservation of our heritage and conservation of our natural resources through informed decision-making; Committee meetings are vital in developing recommendations to help the Commission achieve that goal. In that spirit, we provide the following information to be as effective and efficient toward that end. Welcome, and please let us know if you have any questions.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other Commission activities are invited to contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator at (916) 651-1214. Requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received at least 10 working days prior to the meeting to ensure the request can be accommodated.

SUBMITTING WRITTEN MATERIALS

The public is encouraged to attend Committee meetings and engage in the discussion about items on the agenda; the public is also welcome to comment on agenda items in writing. You may submit your written comments by one of the following methods (only one is necessary): **Email** to fgc@fgc.ca.gov; **mail** to California Fish and Game Commission, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090; **deliver** to California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814; or **hand-deliver to a Committee meeting**.

COMMENT DEADLINES:

The **Written Comment Deadline** for this meeting is **5:00 p.m. on August 28, 2019**. Written comments received at the Commission office by this deadline will be made available to Commissioners prior to the meeting.

The **Late Comment Deadline** for this meeting is **noon on September 5, 2019**. Comments received by this deadline will be marked "late" and made available to Commissioners at the meeting.

After these deadlines, written comments may be delivered in person to the meeting – please bring five (5) copies of written comments to the meeting.

The Committee **will not** consider comments regarding proposed changes to regulations that have been noticed by the Commission. If you wish to provide comment on a noticed

item, please provide your comments during Commission business meetings, via email, or deliver to the Commission office.

Note: Materials provided to the Committee may be made available to the general public.

REGULATION CHANGE PETITIONS

As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be redirected to the full Commission and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, *Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change* (Section 662, Title 14, California Code of Regulations). However, at the Committee's discretion, the Committee may request that staff follow up on items of potential interest to the Committee and possible recommendation to the Commission.

SPEAKING AT THE MEETING

Committee meetings operate informally and provide opportunity for everyone to comment on agenda items. If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please follow these guidelines:

1. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Committee co-chair(s).
2. Once recognized, please begin by giving your name and affiliation (if any) and the number of people you represent.
3. Time is limited; please keep your comments concise so that everyone has an opportunity to speak.
4. If there are several speakers with the same concerns, please try to appoint a spokesperson and avoid repetitive comments.
5. If you would like to present handouts or written materials to the Committee, please provide five copies to the designated staff member just prior to speaking.
6. If speaking during public comment, the subject matter you present should not be related to any item on the current agenda (public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the Committee members discuss that item). As a general rule, public comment is an opportunity to bring matters to the attention of the Committee, but you may also do so via email or standard mail. At the discretion of the Committee, staff may be requested to follow up on the subject you raise.

VISUAL PRESENTATIONS/MATERIALS

All electronic presentations must be submitted by the **Late Comment Deadline** and approved by the Commission executive director before the meeting.

1. Electronic presentations must be provided by email or delivered to the Commission on a USB flash drive by the deadline.
2. All electronic formats must be Windows PC compatible.
3. It is recommended that a print copy of any electronic presentation be submitted in case of technical difficulties.
4. A data projector, laptop and presentation mouse will be available.

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Receive public comments for items not on the agenda.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)**Background**

WRC generally receives two types of correspondence or comment under general public comment: requests for WRC to consider new topics, and informational items. As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be directed to FGC and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, titled "Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change" (Section 662, Title 14, CCR). However, at the discretion of WRC, staff may be requested to follow up on items of potential interest to WRC and possible recommendation to FGC.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

FGC staff: If WRC wants to recommend any new future agenda items based on issues raised and within FGC's authority, staff recommends holding for discussion under today's Agenda Item 8, Future Agenda Items.

Exhibits (N/A)**Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

3. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Today's Item

Information

Direction

Receive updates on DFW activities.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)

Background

This is a standing agenda item for DFW to provide updates on activities of interest related to wildlife and inland fisheries.

- (A) Wildlife Branch: Branch Chief Kari Lewis
- (B) Fisheries Branch: Senior Environmental Scientist Karen Mitchell
- (C) Law Enforcement Division: Captain Patrick Foy

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation (N/A)

Exhibits (N/A)

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

4. REGULATIONS FOR 2020-21 SEASON**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Identify and discuss initial recommendations for 2020-21 upland game bird hunting regulations.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today's WRC vetting • WRC potential recommendations • FGC notice hearing | <p>Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa
 Jan 16, 2020; Los Angeles area
 Feb 5-6, 2020; Sacramento</p> |
|---|--|

Background

This item is to provide DFW and the public an opportunity to identify and discuss potential changes for upland game bird hunting regulations for the 2020-21 season. DFW is not anticipated to propose any changes to current regulations.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits (N/A)****Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2020-21 REGULATIONS**Today's Item**Information Direction

Discuss and approve recommendations for 2020-21 regulations for:

- (A) Mammal hunting
- (B) Waterfowl hunting
- (C) Central Valley sport fishing
- (D) Klamath River Basin sport fishing

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Initial vetting May 16, 2019; WRC, Sacramento
- **Today's discussion and recommendations** **Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa**
- FGC notice hearing Dec 11-12, 2019; Sacramento

Background

This item is to provide the public an opportunity to discuss proposed changes for regulations for the 2020-21 seasons.

- (A) Mammal hunting: Annual proposed changes to hunting regulations for various big game mammals, including deer, Nelson bighorn sheep, antelope and elk, are generally combined for concurrent action under a single rulemaking package; DFW will present proposed changes, if any, during the meeting.
- (B) Waterfowl hunting: FGC annually adopts migratory waterfowl hunting regulations to conform State regulations with federal regulations; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service adopts federal regulations each Oct based, in part, on recommendations from four regional flyway councils. Migratory waterfowl include American coot, common moorhen, ducks, black brant and geese, among others; DFW will present proposed changes, if any, during the meeting.
- (C) Central Valley sport fishing: FGC annually adopts Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing regulations for the American, Feather, and Sacramento rivers to align State regulations with federal fishery management goals recommended by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) (Exhibit C1).
- (D) FGC annually adopts Klamath River Basin sport fishing regulations to align State regulations with federal fishery allocations recommended by PFMC (Exhibit D1).

Today, DFW staff will summarize any proposed regulation changes beyond the anticipated changes to season and bag limits for the 2020-21 seasons.

This meeting is the last opportunity for WRC to make recommendations to FGC regarding potential changes to consider in these rulemakings before the notice hearing in Dec 2019.

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Significant Public Comments

A concern is expressed about black brant geese in Morrow Bay; request that take regulations be revisited (Exhibit B1).

Recommendation

FGC staff: Prior to developing a recommendation, consider recommendations provided by DFW and through public comments during the meeting.

Exhibits

- B1. Email from Lynda Merrill, received Aug 20, 2019
- C1. DFW presentation – Central Valley sport fishing
- D1. DFW presentation – Klamath River Basin sport fishing

Committee Direction/Recommendation

The Wildlife Resources Committee recommends that the Commission support the proposed regulation changes for mammal hunting, waterfowl hunting, Central Valley Chinook sport fishing, and Klamath River Basin sport fishing for the 2020-21 seasons, as recommended by the Department.

OR

The Wildlife Resources Committee recommends that the Commission support the proposed regulation changes for mammal hunting, waterfowl hunting, Central Valley Chinook sport fishing, and Klamath River Basin sport fishing for the 2020-21 seasons, as recommended by the Department, except _____.

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

6. SIMPLIFICATION OF STATEWIDE INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS**Today's Item**Information Direction

Receive an update on the statewide inland sportfish regulations and simplification project.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| • Initial WRC introduction | Sep 20, 2018; WRC, Sacramento |
| • Discussion and “menu” recommendation | Jan 10, 2019; WRC; Ontario |
| • FGC support of “menu” concept | Feb 6, 2019; Sacramento |
| • Update and discussion | May 16, 2019; WRC, Sacramento |
| • Today's discussion and potential recommendation | Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa |

Background

A DFW effort to comprehensively simplify inland sportfishing seasons and bag limits for trout waters (excluding anadromous waters) has been underway since 2018. See Exhibit 1 for a detailed background.

Today, DFW will update WRC on its efforts to date, outline its future plans for the proposal, and propose a new timeline. It is expected that DFW will request a special WRC meeting in Mar 2020, following refinement of the specific proposal, to facilitate discussion of the detailed proposal and development of a WRC recommendation.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

FGC staff: Support scheduling a special WRC meeting for Mar 2020 in Sacramento, for the purposes of discussing and potentially making a recommendation for simplifying statewide inland fishing regulations.

Exhibits

1. Staff summary from May 16, 2019 WRC meeting (*for background purposes only*)
2. DFW presentation

Committee Direction/Recommendation

The Wildlife Resources Committee recommends that the Commission schedule a special meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee in March 2020 in Sacramento, for the single purpose of discussing and potentially making a recommendation for simplifying statewide inland fishing regulations.

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

7. BULLFROGS AND NON-NATIVE TURTLES**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Receive an update on implementation of the bullfrog and non-native turtle stakeholder engagement plan.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| • FGC stakeholder engagement plan approved | Oct 11-12, 2017; Atascadero |
| • FGC referred plan to WRC | Dec 12-13, 2018; Oceanside |
| • Update and discussion | May 16, 2019; WRC; Sacramento |
| • Today's update | Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa |

Background

Annually there are approximately two million non-native American bullfrogs and 300,000 non-native turtles (mostly red-eared sliders and softshell turtles) imported into California for food and the pet trade. Even though these species are not imported into California with the intention of being released, they have established wild populations that threaten native amphibians, fish, and wildlife by direct predation, competition for resources and habitat, and disease. See Exhibit 1 for further background.

In Apr 2017, FGC directed FGC staff with DFW's assistance to develop a proposal for stakeholder engagement to further evaluate possible solutions to address the impacts of American bullfrogs and non-native turtles on native wildlife. The staff proposal was presented to FGC in Oct 2017, a revised version was approved by FGC in Oct 2018 (Exhibit 2), and the stakeholder engagement plan was referred to WRC in Dec 2018 to track progress in implementing the plan.

Today, staff will provide an update on progress since the May 2019 meeting, including interagency planning, convening of the environmental/animal welfare team and efforts to convene the industry team.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

1. Letter from Eric Mills regarding red-eared sliders, received Aug 27, 2019

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Review upcoming agenda items scheduled for the next and future WRC meetings, hear requests from DFW and stakeholders for future agenda items, and identify new items for consideration.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- **Today's discussion** **Sep 10, 2019; WRC, Santa Rosa**
- FGC potentially approves WRC recommendations Oct 9-10, 2019; San Diego
- Next WRC meeting (subject to change) Jan 5, 2019; WRC; Los Angeles area

Background

Committee topics are referred by FGC and scheduled as appropriate. FGC-referred topics and the current schedule are shown in Exhibit 1. WRC agendas currently include two complex and time-intensive topics. The committee has placed emphasis on issues of imminent regulatory importance.

WRC Work Plan

Draft agenda topics identified for the Jan 2020 WRC meeting include:

1. Proposed rulemakings – review and recommendations:
 - Resident upland game birds
2. American bullfrog and non-native turtles stakeholder engagement – update
3. Simplification of statewide inland fishing regulations – discussion

Discuss and Recommend New WRC Topics

Today provides an opportunity to identify any potential new agenda topics to recommend to FGC for referral to WRC.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

FGC staff: Review WRC work plan (Exhibit 1) and current FGC rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 2), consider updates to scheduling of topics, consider whether any approved topics should be added to or replace existing agenda topics for Jan 2020, decide whether to request FGC refer any new topics for WRC evaluation, and provide staff direction for potential recommendations to FGC for the Jan 2020 WRC meeting.

Exhibits

1. WRC Workplan, updated Aug 29, 2019
2. *Perpetual Timetable for California Fish and Game Commission Anticipated Regulatory Actions, updated Sep 4, 2019*

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)

From: Lynda Merrill [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 6:53 AM
To: FGC
Subject: Black Brant Geese numbers reduced in Morro Bay

*Acting Executive Director
Melissa Miller-Henson*

Dear Director Miller Henson,

I have lived in Morro Bay for 35 years and have watched and enjoyed seeing the Black Brant Geese winter in our Estuary.

Unfortunately, our eel grass has diminished over the years, not sure why?, so now the Brants have less to eat. Their numbers have gone down to a fraction of what we use to see here.

Please revisit you 'take' of these geese by hunting.

Sincerely, Lynda Merrill, resident

[REDACTED]
Morro Bay, Calif.

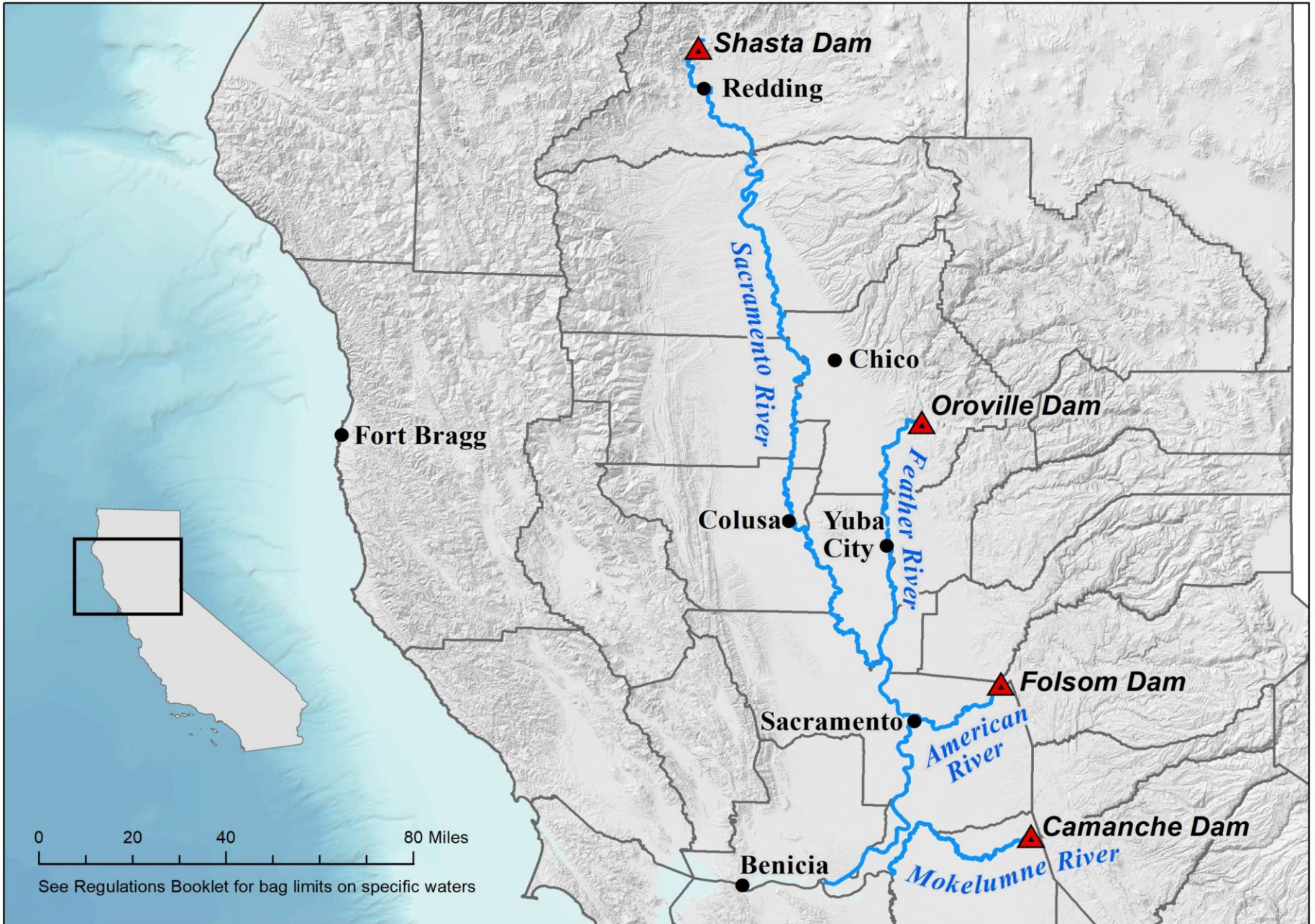
2020 Central Valley Salmon Sport Fishing Regulations



Wildlife Resources Committee Meeting
September 10, 2019
Kevin Shaffer, Chief
Fisheries Branch

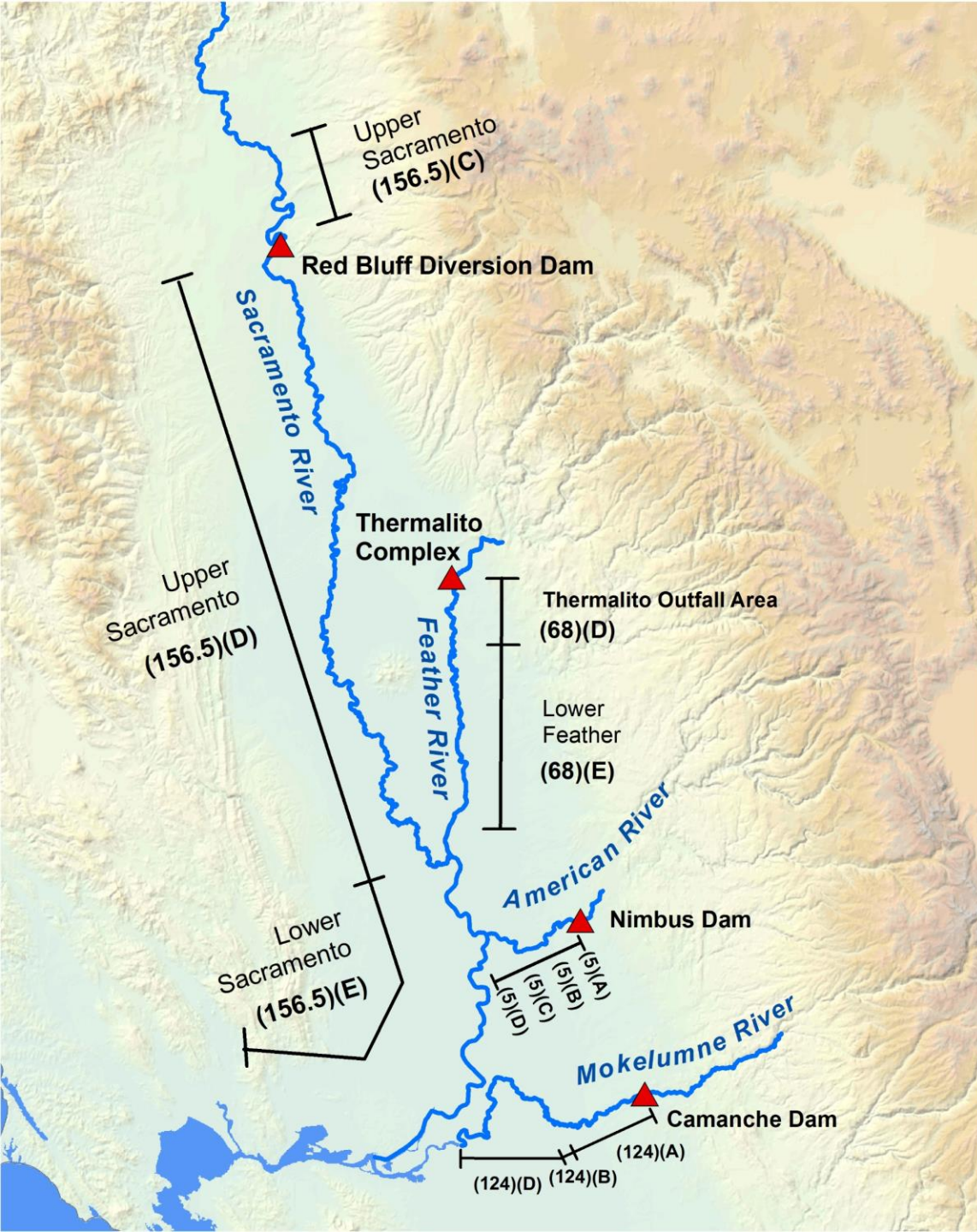


California Central Valley Waters Open to Chinook Salmon Angling, 2019



Special Regulation Waters

Major Central Valley Rivers, 2018



2019 Sport Fishing Regulations

- Lower American River
 - 2 fish daily bag / 4 fish possession limit
- Feather River
 - 2 fish daily bag / 4 fish possession limit
- Sacramento River
 - 2 fish daily bag / 4 fish possession limit
- Mokelumne River
 - 2 fish daily bag / 4 fish possession limit

Increased Fishing Opportunities

- Feather River
 - extended the salmon fishing season by two weeks between the Thermalito Afterbay Outfall and the Live Oak boat ramp
- Mokelumne River
 - extended the salmon and hatchery steelhead fishing season on approximately ten miles of river between the Highway 99 Bridge and Elliott Road

2020 Regulatory Options

- Option 1 – Any size Chinook Salmon fishery
 - allow harvest of up to [0-4] salmon any size per day
- Option 2 – Limited adult and grilse salmon fishery
 - allow harvest of a limited number of adult salmon, with grilse salmon making up the remainder of the daily bag and possession limits
- Option 3 - Grilse-only salmon fishery
 - allow for a grilse-only salmon fishery

Range of Possible Bag and Possession Limits

- Lower American River
 - Bag limit: 0-4 fish; Possession limit: 0-8 fish
- Feather River
 - Bag limit: 0-4 fish; Possession limit: 0-8 fish
- Mokelumne River
 - Bag limit: 0-4 fish; Possession limit: 0-8 fish
- Sacramento River
 - Bag limit: 0-4 fish; Possession limit: 0-8 fish

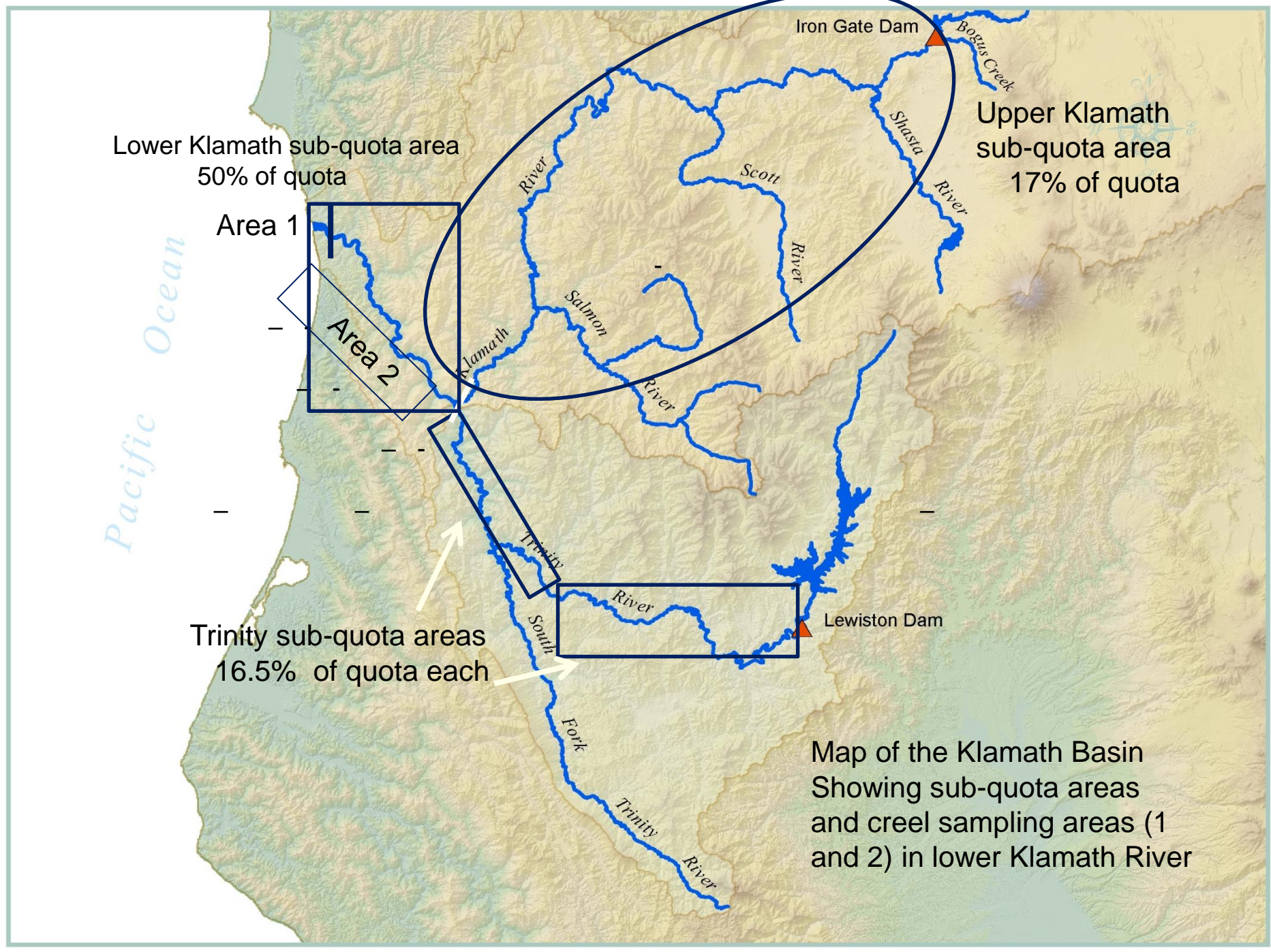


2020 Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing Regulatory Options



**Wildlife Resources Committee Meeting
September 10, 2019
Kevin Shaffer, Chief
Fisheries Branch**





Lower Klamath sub-quota area
50% of quota

Upper Klamath
sub-quota area
17% of quota

Area 1

Area 2

Trinity sub-quota areas
16.5% of quota each

Map of the Klamath Basin
Showing sub-quota areas
and creel sampling areas (1
and 2) in lower Klamath River

Pacific Fisheries Management Council

- The PFMC establishes harvest allocations and natural spawning escapement goals for Klamath fall-run Chinook Salmon
- The PFMC will recommend the 2020 Klamath River recreational fishery allocation in April 2020
- Klamath Basin quota allocation typically conforms to PFMC recommendations (minimum of 15% of non-tribal allocation)
- DFW determines bag and possession limits based on quota

2019 Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing Regulations

- Klamath River Basin quota: 7,636 fish > 22 inches
- Daily bag limit: 3 fish, no more than 2 adults > 22 inches
- Possession limit: 9 fish, no more than 6 adults > 22 inches
- Season: Aug. 15 – Dec. 31 (Klamath River)
- Season: Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 (Trinity River)

2020 Klamath River Basin Regulatory Options

- Klamath River Basin quota range: 0-67,600 fish > 22 inches
- Bag limit range: 0-4 fish > 22 inches
- Possession limit range: 0-12 fish > 22 inches
- Season: Aug. 15 – Dec. 31 (Klamath River)
- Season: Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 (Trinity River)

New Proposed Regulation Change

- Affected Water: Trinity River mainstem
- Affected Species: Brown Trout
- Proposal: Increase allowable harvest to 10 fish daily bag / 20 fish possession limit
- Justification: Allow for increased harvest of non-native trout



STAFF SUMMARY FOR MAY 16, 2019

6. SIMPLIFICATION OF STATEWIDE INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS

Today's Item

Information Action

Receive an update on the simplification of statewide inland fishing regulations rulemaking.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| • Initial WRC introduction | Sep 20, 2018; WRC, Sacramento |
| • Discussion and “menu” recommendation | Jan 10, 2019; WRC; Ontario |
| • FGC support of “menu” concept | Feb 6, 2019; Sacramento |
| • Today's update and discussion | May 16, 2019; WRC, Sacramento |

Background

For years, FGC and DFW have received complaints from anglers about the complexity of freshwater sport fishing regulations. Some anglers (or potential anglers) may be dissuaded from fishing due to actual or perceived difficulty in complying with the regulations. For example, currently there are 212 special regulation waters in Section 7.50(b), including 88 different seasons, 13 different size restrictions, 10 different gear restrictions, and 6 different bag and possession limits.

To help address angler concerns, DFW has proposed to change and simplify inland sportfishing seasons and bag limits, for trout waters only; the proposal excludes anadromous waters. The goals for the revisions are:

- maintain or increase angling opportunity;
- improve regulatory consistency across waters;
- align sport fishing regulations with DFW's fisheries management goals and objectives;
- reduce complexity and confusion; and
- protect fishery resources.

In basic terms, DFW designed a framework for the simplification based on a “menu” concept, where one of several predefined season and bag limit combinations would be chosen for specific waterways. In Jan 2019, DFW presented its proposed menu approach to WRC. In Feb 2019, FGC approved WRC's recommendation to support the menu concept, with an expectation that DFW would return to WRC with a more detailed proposal after public outreach meetings.

To date, DFW has held six outreach meetings across the state to solicit input from the public, and has received considerable feedback during and subsequent to the meetings. DFW is currently analyzing and integrating the feedback into its proposal. Today, DFW will update WRC on its efforts to date, outline its future plans for the proposal, and discuss implications for the overall timeline. FGC staff supports the additional effort DFW has made to reach and engage recreational fishermen across the state, and believes that such efforts will ultimately result in a proposal that can be more broadly supported during the rulemaking process.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

STAFF SUMMARY FOR MAY 16, 2019

Recommendation

FGC staff: Recommend that FGC consider today's discussion regarding potential adjustments to next steps, WRC vetting, and timeline for the statewide inland fishing regulations development and rulemaking. If appropriate, recommend that FGC revise the regulatory timetable to reflect modifications.

Exhibits (N/A)

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)

Sport Fishing Regulations Revision and Simplification Project



Photo by Mike Mamola

Wildlife Resources Committee Meeting
September 10, 2019
Karen Mitchell
Fisheries Branch



Project Status

- Developed Trout Menu
- Menu was vetted through WRC /TC
- Menu was applied to waters statewide by Regional/HQ staff
- Proposed changes were vetted through public input

Public Outreach

- Townhalls/online surveys (2018)
- Press release
- Social Media
- Released draft regulatory changes
- Created Interactive Webpage
- Held 6 townhalls throughout the state between March 20th and April 23rd
- HQ and Regional staff attended Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting

Next Steps

- Review public input
- Coordinate with Regional Biologists
- Revise bins in Trout Menu based on public input and new information
- Discuss proposed changes via the WRC
- Submit reg package to FGC
- Move regs through FGC process and respond to comments

Project Timeline

- Wildlife Resources Committee meetings
 - January 2020 (Discuss proposed changes)
 - March 2020 (DFW recommendation)
 - May 2020 (Update)
- Commission meetings
 - June 2020 (Request to go to Notice)
 - August 2020 (Discussion)
 - October 2020 (Adoption)
- March 1, 2021 – Regulations go into effect

Thank You



Photo by Roger Bloom

From: afa@mcn.org <afa@mcn.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 02:21 PM

To: Office of the Secretary CNRA <secretary@resources.ca.gov>; Wildlife DIRECTOR <DIRECTOR@wildlife.ca.gov>; FGC <FGC@fgc.ca.gov>; Cornman, Ari@FGC <Ari.Cornman@FGC.ca.gov>

Cc: info@tortoise.com <info@tortoise.com>; jloda@biologicaldiversity.org <jloda@biologicaldiversity.org>; mbernstein@spcala.com <mbernstein@spcala.com>; kerry@savethefrogs.com <kerry@savethefrogs.com>; davep@earthisland.org <davep@earthisland.org>; johnknox@earthisland.org <johnknox@earthisland.org>; ksuckling@biologicaldiversity.org <ksuckling@biologicaldiversity.org>; michael.brune@sierraclub.org <michael.brune@sierraclub.org>; p flick@defencers.org <p flick@defencers.org>

Subject: RED-EARED SLIDERS - CALIFORNIA

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fscitechdaily.com%2Fred-eared-slider-invaders-are-hurting-californias-native-turtles%2F%3Funapproved%3D499753%26moderation-hash%3D6ebfe14003273706e6b85f2b84208d11%23comment-499753&data=02%7C01%7Cfgc%40fgc.ca.gov%7C1133f00ebfce41d66d3a08d72b348971%7C4b633c25efbf40069f1507442ba7aa0b%7C0%7C1%7C637025376958254195&sdata=0vnYq1AKFNw6Hd3QbLBl%2BFszAC7%2FTap2I6bXSF1%2Bl1c%3D&reserved=0>

NOTE OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENTS.

Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) 2019-20 Work Plan
Scheduled Topics and Timeline for
Items Referred to WRC by the California Fish and Game Commission
 Updated August 29, 2019

Topic	Category	2019		2020		
		MAY	SEP	JAN	MAR	MAY
		Sacramento	Santa Rosa	TBD	(PROPOSED)	TBD
Annual Regulations						
Upland (Resident) Game Birds	Annual		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/R				
Simplification of Statewide Inland Fishing Regulations	Regulatory	X	X	X	X/R	
Special Projects						
American Bullfrog and Non-native Turtle Stakeholder Engagement Project	Referral for Review	X	X	X		
Policies						
Delta Fisheries Forum Recommendations and Delta Fisheries Policy	Referral for Review	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

