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*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

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January 12, 2024

TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES:

This is to provide notice of sufficiently related changes to the Klamath River dam removal sport fishing regulations, published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on November 17, 2023, Notice Number Z2023-1106-05, and scheduled for adoption by the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) at its February 14-15, 2024 meeting in Sacramento. This notice also provides an update to the meeting location.

This provides notice of proposed changes to the regulatory text in subsections 7.40(b)(50) and 7.50(b)(73) of Title 14, California Code of Regulations. Because these regulations are different from, yet sufficiently related to, the originally proposed regulations, the Administrative Procedure Act requires that we make these changes available to you for a written comment period.

The originally proposed regulations included four options for the Commission to consider for sport fishing opportunities in the upper Klamath River Basin during the Lower Klamath Project decommissioning and removal of four dams on the main stem of the Klamath River. On December 13, 2023, proposed amendments to the subject rulemaking were discussed and the Commission authorized publication of a notice of sufficiently related changes to the proposed regulatory text. The goal of these changes is to increase protection of returning adult Chinook Salmon and does not substantially alter the original purpose of the regulations.

Changes to Options:

- For Option 2 in the sub area “Klamath River from Lakeview Road Bridge near Iron Gate to I-5 Bridge”, update the existing gear restriction to include artificial lures.
- For Options 2, 3, and 4 above Lakeview Road Bridge near Iron Gate, the proposed regulatory language is changed from “0 Chinook Salmon” to “closed to the take and possession of Chinook Salmon.” A “0 Chinook Salmon” daily bag limit implies catch and release fishing.
- For Option 3 in the sub area “Klamath River from I-5 bridge to Lakeview Road Bridge near Iron Gate,” the option to harvest grilse Chinook Salmon is removed while allowing catch and release fishing of Chinook Salmon from August 15 through December 31.

Correction to Omissions:

- Correct omission of seasonal fishing closures from August 15 to December 15 on the Klamath River and from September 1 to December 31 on the Trinity River.

The proposed changes are clearly indicated on the attached amended Initial Statement of Reasons and regulatory text as follows: additions of newly proposed text are shown in double underline; deletions of formerly proposed text are shown in underline and strikeout. Consistent with the original notice for this rulemaking, formerly proposed text that is not affected by the changes described below is indicated in underline for new text.

Notice of Location Change

The original notice for this rulemaking indicated that the location of the meeting will take place at the following location: California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters 1st Floor Auditorium, 715 P Street, Sacramento, California, 95814. The new location is California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters, **2nd Floor**, 715 P Street, Sacramento, California, 95814.

Availability of Documents

Documents relating to the proposed changes are available for inspection at the Commission's office at 715 P Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, California 95814, Monday through Friday, except holidays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and on the Commission's website at <https://fgc.ca.gov/Regulations/2023-New-and-Proposed>. Any member of the public wishing to visit the Commission office is requested to send an email to fgc@fgc.ca.gov describing the reason for your visit and your desired date and time.

Comments on the revisions to the proposed regulatory text must be received via email to fgc@fgc.ca.gov or mailed to Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, by February 1, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Oral comments may be given at the Commission's February 14-15, 2024 meeting in Sacramento.

Sincerely,

David Thesell
Program Manager

Attachments