

State of California
The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Inland Fisheries - Informational Leaflet No. 36

**IMPORTATION OF LIVE AQUATIC PLANTS, INVERTEBRATES, FISH,
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES¹**

This leaflet presents a digest of the laws and regulations governing the importation of live aquatic plants and animals into California. The information at the beginning of the leaflet is a summary only. Verbatim copies of the laws and regulations governing importation are attached, beginning on page 9. Be sure to read these carefully. Any questions regarding the importation of live aquatic plants and animals may be directed to: Department of Fish and Game, Fisheries Branch, 830 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 445-0826.

The importation of harmful plants and animals or animal diseases and parasites poses a serious threat to aquaculture, other aquatic resources, and native wildlife. In many cases, introduction of fish diseases and parasites or undesirable species has been traced to the illegal movement of plants or animals. Fortunately, many of the undesirable species, which are common elsewhere, are not present in California. However, there are many examples of the past introduction of undesirable exotics, such as common carp, water hyacinth, mitten crabs, and whirling disease of trout. It is important to prevent such environmental catastrophes.

State law requires an Importation Permit to import most live aquatic plants and animals. The Department of Fish and Game (Department) is cautious in issuing such permits. All imported aquatic plants and animals are subject to inspection. Inspections accomplish two important goals: (1) they ensure only permitted species enter the State; and (2) they ensure all plants and animals entering the State are disease and parasite-free.

The Department issues long-term (Form FG 786) and standard (Form FG 789) importation permits. A Long-term Importation Permit is valid for multiple importations from a single supplier for one year. A Standard Importation Permit is valid for a single shipment from a single supplier. The type of permit issued depends on the species being imported. Contact Fisheries Branch staff at (916) 445-0826 for more information.

^{1/} Fisheries Branch, April, 2000, revised December 2002, March 2005, August 2008, June 2011.

Importations Exempt from DFG Permit Requirements

The following importations are exempt from the special Importation Permit requirements described in this leaflet:

- Live shellfish imported for food, which will not be placed into State waters or held in waters that discharge into State waters
- Live tropical species held entirely in indoor closed systems and used only for ornamental/hobby purposes (not for food or for bait)
- Brine shrimp

Importation permits **are** required for crayfish or any other live aquatic species if they are imported for bait.

Importation permits **are** required for all fin fish imported for food.

Importation permits **are** required for all species destined for stocking into waters of the State.

Fish and Game Offices (and Counties Represented)

NORTHERN REGION		NORTH CENTRAL REGION		BAY-DELTA REGION	
601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001 (530) 225-2300		1701 Nimbus Road Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 (916) 358-2900		7329 Silverado Road Napa, CA 94558 (707) 944-5500	
Del Norte Humboldt Lassen Mendocino Modoc	Shasta Siskiyou Tehama Trinity	Alpine Amador Butte Calaveras Colusa	Plumas Sacramento San Joaquin Sierra	Alameda Contra Costa Marin Napa Sacramento	San Francisco San Joaquin San Mateo
CENTRAL REGION		El Dorado Glenn Lake Nevada Placer	Solano Sutter Yolo Yuba	Santa Clara Santa Cruz Solano Sonoma	Yolo
1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, CA 93710 (559) 243-4005		SOUTH COAST REGION		INLAND DESERTS REGION	
Fresno Kern Kings Madera Mariposa	Merced Stanislaus Tulare Tuolumne	3883 Ruffin Road San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 467-4201		3602 Inland Empire Blvd. Suite C-220 Ontario, CA 91764 (909) 484-0167	
LICENSES AND REVENUE BRANCH		Los Angeles Orange San Diego	Santa Barbara Ventura	Imperial Inyo Mono	Riverside San Bernardino
1740 N Market Blvd Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 928-5805					

**FISHERIES BRANCH
830 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 445-0826**

Standard Importation Permit

The Department of Fish and Game requires a Standard Importation Permit to import most aquatic species. A Standard Importation Permit is valid for one shipment from one supplier. A copy of your approved Importation Permit must accompany the shipment. Applications for a Standard Importation Permit are available on-line at:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/Administration/Permits/>. Mail completed applications with the appropriate fees to the Department of Fish and Game address at the bottom of the Importation Permit application form. Incomplete or illegible applications will result in delays.

IMPORTANT: Complete Importation Permit applications and appropriate fees must reach the Fisheries Branch at least 10 working days in advance of the shipment date.

A separate Standard Importation Permit must be completed and approved for each shipment of live aquatic plants or animals into the State.

Permit fees are adjusted annually, pursuant to the Consumer Price Index. Contact the Department's Fisheries Branch for the current fee. In addition, Department pathologists may conduct a health inspection. The inspection fee is in addition to the permit fee and varies depending on the location (Appendix C). The Department will invoice the importer for the inspection fee.

If your shipment requires a health inspection, the Department will contact you to arrange a time, date, and place for the health inspection. Your authorized Importation Permit will include the health inspection details. One copy of the approved permit must accompany the shipment. For more information regarding the Importation Permit or inspection fees, contact the Department's Fisheries Branch.

The permit is valid only on the date the inspection takes place. If there is a change in the shipment date after the Importation Permit has been mailed, you must notify the Fisheries Branch, 830 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811 or by telephone at (916) 445-0826. Failure to notice may result in the loss of fees or cancellation of permits.

Long-term Importation Permit

Certain species importations qualify for a Long-term Importation Permit. A Long-term Importation Permit is intended for repeated importations under the same conditions (same species from the same origin to the same destination). To qualify for this type of permit, the risk of introducing diseases, parasites, or undesirable species with the imported animals must be very low. Examples are animals which:

1. Normally are taken from the wild outside the State (not aquaculture products) from drainages absent diseases, parasites, or exotic species of concern.
2. Normally will not be maintained alive in the waters of the State.
3. The Department has reason to believe harbour no known new fish diseases or

parasites, which might be introduced to the waters of the State.

Examples may be Sacramento blackfish, carp and other fin fish held alive until retailed in food markets, and certain species, including crayfish and other aquatic invertebrates, used as live bait in the waters of the State.

Long-term Importation Permits (Form FG 786) are issued at the discretion of the Department for periods of up to one year from the date of issue.

An administrative fee is charged for issuing each permit and is adjusted annually, pursuant to the Consumer Price Index. You should contact the Department's Fisheries Branch for the current fee.

Applicants for a Long-term Importation Permit must list the sources of the live animals they will be importing, the locations to which they intend to import, and the approximate frequency of importation. If the live aquatic animals are to be distributed to other retailers after importation, the importer must supply a list of retailers to whom live animals will be distributed.

Inspections of live aquatic animals imported under the provisions of a Long-term Importation Permit may be conducted at the discretion of the Department.

Applications for a Long-term Importation Permit are available online at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/Administration/Permits/>. For more information, please contact the Department of Fish and Game, Fisheries Branch, 830 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 445-0826.

Health Certificate for Trout, Char, and Salmon Eggs

If you plan to import eggs of species in the salmonid family (trout, char, and salmon), your application for an Importation Permit must include a health certificate verifying that the source of the eggs is free of the following diseases:

- Infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN)
- Infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN)
- Viral hemorrhagic septicemia (Egtved)
- Bacterial kidney disease

These diseases cause severe mortalities in young fish reared under hatchery conditions and there is concern that they may have the same effects on wild populations. Survivors become carriers of the diseases and some of the diseases can be transmitted with fish eggs. Diagnosis of the diseases is difficult, some involving live fish cell cultures, and may take as long as two or three weeks. No symptoms are evident in infected eggs. None of the diseases are treatable; containment may involve destruction of hatchery stock. Therefore, salmonid eggs may not be imported until the broodstock is certified as disease free.

The date of the health certification may not be more than 12 months before the date of

shipment. A person competent in the diagnosis of fish diseases must sign the certificate. In questionable cases, the Director of the Department determines whether the person making the certification is qualified to do so. For more information regarding health certification or fish diseases, contact: Department of Fish and Game, Fish Health Laboratory, 2111 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916) 358-2830.

Shellfish Importation

The Department requires a Standard Importation Permit for each individual shipment of shellfish into the State if it is destined for introduction to State waters. In addition to submitting a sample from each load for disease examination, the importer will be required to submit a "health certification" from the shipment source prior to issuance of the permit.

Information regarding permits, health inspections and health certificates is outlined below. For additional information, importers are encouraged to contact the Fish Health Laboratory, 2111 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916) 358-2830.

Health Certificate for Shellfish

If you plan to import any life stage of shellfish from outside California, your application for an Importation Permit must include a health certification that the source of stocks is free of the following diseases or pathogens:

Perkinsus marinus (fungal infection)
Haplosporidium nelsoni (= Minchinia nelsoni, MXS)
Haplosporidium costalis (= Minchinia costalis, SSO)
Denman Island Disease
Nocardiosis of Pacific Oysters
Bonamiasis (Bonamia species, microcell disease)
Shell Disease of Oysters (Ostracoblabe implexa, fungus)

Other diseases of shellfish may be added to this list as required for protection of the California mariculture industry and native shellfish stocks. These diseases are known to cause severe mortality, and diagnosis is too time consuming to permit rapid detection at time of importation. None of these diseases are treatable and containment may involve destruction of infected stocks once introduced.

Stocking Permit

A Private Stocking Permit is needed when an individual or agency other than the Department of Fish and Game stocks live plants or animals in waters of the State. If you import plants or animals for stocking purposes, the Private Stocking Permit must be obtained before an Importation Permit is issued. For more information, see Inland Fisheries Leaflet Number 6, "Regulations Governing Private Stocking of Aquatic Plants and Animals (Non-commercial)".

EXCEPTION: A registered aquaculturist does not need a stocking permit to stock imported aquatic plants or animals if the facility is currently registered with the Department (a “registered aquaculture facility”) and the species to be stocked is listed on the facility's Certificate of Registration.

Inspection of Live Plants and Animals

All live aquatic plants, invertebrates, fish, and amphibians imported into California, whether they are reared by aquaculturists or wild caught, may be inspected by the Department, either at the border or at locations with suitable facilities for holding and sorting. The person importing the plants or animals is responsible for providing the facilities for inspecting and sorting the load and must pay inspection costs.

Inspection Procedure

Inspection points are normally located near Department of Food and Agriculture plant quarantine stations on main highways entering the State. The inspector will arrive at the inspection point at the time specified for entry into the State. It is illegal to proceed beyond the inspection point or to unload any plants or animals in California prior to inspection.

Inspection Fees

The Importation Permittee must pay the cost of inspection. A minimum deposit in an amount equal to the inspection fee, at the desired point of entry, must accompany the application for Importation Permit. The importer will be billed later by the Department for any additional cost over this minimum deposit. Failure to pay will result in legal action and denial of future permits. Current inspection fees are listed in Appendix C to this leaflet. Travel time and expenses from the inspector's headquarters are included in the fee.

The stringency of inspection varies with the source and species of fish. The danger of undesirable species coming from drainages east of the Rocky Mountains is grave. Hence, the inspector may hand examine each imported fish from that area. Such inspections are time consuming and expensive.

You can help keep inspection fees down by arriving at the time stated on the notification. You will be charged for standby time at the rate of \$33.00 per hour, starting one hour after the arrival time indicated on the application.

You will be charged for an inspection if you fail to notify the Department when a scheduled shipment is cancelled. The Department must receive such notification at Fish Health Laboratory, 2111 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916) 358-2830, at least 5 days before the scheduled arrival time.

Rejection

Any lot of imported plants or animals found by the inspector to be diseased or to contain undesirable species must immediately be destroyed or transported out of California within a period of time specified by the Department. In such cases, the Importation Permit is automatically cancelled.

Introduction of Species Not Already Present in California

Prohibited Species

No one may import into this State any species listed in Section 671, Title 14 (see regulations attached to this leaflet). Be sure to read these carefully. These species are prohibited in California because they are undesirable or a menace to native wildlife, the agricultural interests of the State, or to public health or safety.

Exotic Species

Approval from the Fish and Game Commission is required to import live any species not currently established in California. This is in addition to other licensing and permitting requirements. Permission must be obtained at a regularly scheduled Commission meeting. Address requests to import exotic species to the Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Be sure to include the scientific name of the species, the source of the aquatic plant or animal, a detailed explanation of your proposed operation, and the means by which the plant or animal will be confined.

The Fish and Game Commission has a strict policy concerning introducing exotic species into California. You must be prepared to defend your proposed introduction to the Commission in terms of the guidelines presented by the policy. The policy states:

EXOTIC SPECIES

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

- I. Proposals to introduce exotic species shall be submitted to the Commission for approval. The Department will review and evaluate proposals to insure that the potential effects of such introductions will not have unacceptable negative impacts on native species.
- II. In considering proposed introductions, the Commission and Department will be guided by the following:
 - A. Introductions of an exotic species will be authorized only after potential impacts on native species and habitats have been carefully evaluated, and it has been demonstrated that such impacts will be negligible or positive.

Such an evaluation should consider the species' ability to disperse and affect other species and habitats outside the introduction area.

- B. Initial experimental introduction of an approved exotic species will be made under conditions that will permit the action to be reversed, such as an introduction into a confined area or introduction of sterile individuals.
 - C. Clear need for the action exists, and the need cannot be satisfied through improved management to enhance native species or previously established non-native species.
- III. Introduction of previously established non-native species into areas of the State where they have not been established will be permitted only after it has been determined by the Department that they will have no significant negative impact on native plant and animal species.

IV. Definition:

An exotic species is any mammal, bird, fish, amphibian, reptile, invertebrate, or plant that is not native to California, which does not presently exist as a viable population in a wild condition in the State. A previously established non-native species is an exotic animal or plant that has become established in California by the aid of humans.

Catfish and Bullheads

It is unlawful to import any live catfish or bullheads into California due to the danger of introducing channel catfish virus. This includes adults, fingerlings, or eggs.

Sturgeon, Striped Bass, and Steelhead Trout

Any sturgeon, striped bass, or steelhead trout imported live into California must be accompanied by a duplicate sales invoice or waybill with the following information:

- the name and address of the producer,
- the producer's aquaculture registration number,
- date of shipment,
- the species being transported,
- the weight, volume, or count of each species in the shipment,
- the name and address of the intended receiver and
- tag number if subject tag is required.

The consignee shall retain a copy of the bill of lading or similar accountable document for one year and make it available to the Department upon request. For complete details, see Section

240 of Title 14 (included in this leaflet).

Live Hybrid Striped Bass

Live hybrid striped bass may not be imported or possessed except under the terms of a permit issued by the Department, specifying conditions under which these aquaculture products may be reared and transported. Requests for permits shall be submitted to the Department of Fish and Game, Fisheries Branch, 830 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.

Reptiles and Amphibians

The Department may issue permits to scientific or education institutions and to owners of biological supply houses to import those species of reptiles and amphibians native to California. No other person may import any species of reptile or amphibian native to California for commercial purposes. Species of amphibians not found in California, whether wild or reared in captivity, are subject to the same importation laws and regulations as fish. Non-native venomous snakes, crocodiles, snapping turtles, giant marine toads, and African clawed frogs (Xenopus) are prohibited in California.

Tropical Aquarium Plants and Animals

You do not need an Importer's License or Importation Permit to import most tropical species of aquatic plants and animals for use in aquariums exclusively. However, there are restrictions against certain species (see Section 671, Title 14, Appendix B). Importations for aquaculture production in open systems (ponds or tanks discharging to waters of the State) require an Importation Permit, even though the eventual market for the fish is the aquarium trade.

It is illegal to release any aquarium plant or animal in public or private waters without a permit from the Department.

APPENDIX A
Laws Pertaining to the Importation of Aquatic Plants and Animals

2270. It is unlawful for any person to receive, bring, or cause to be brought into this state, for the purpose of propagation, any fish, reptile, amphibian, or aquatic plant from any place wherein any infected, diseased, or parasitized fish, reptile, amphibia, or aquatic plants are known to exist.

2271. (a) No live aquatic plant or animal may be imported into this state without the prior written approval of the department pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission. A written application for the importation, submitted in conformance with the procedural requirements established by the commission, is deemed approved where it has not been denied within 60 days.

(b) This section does not apply to the following plants or animals unless the plants or animals are or may be placed in waters of the state.

(1) Mollusks.

(2) Crustaceans.

(3) Ornamental marine or freshwater plants and animals that are not utilized for human consumption or bait purposes and are maintained in closed systems for personal, pet industry, or hobby purposes.

(c) The section does not apply to any live aquatic plant or animal imported by a registered aquaculturist.

2272. Each package containing any live aquatic plant or animal shall bear, in a conspicuous place, a tag on which shall be stated the name and address of the consignor, the name and address of the consignee, and the exact contents of the package.

5050. Fully protected reptiles and amphibians or parts thereof may not be taken or possessed at any time and no provision of this code or any other law shall be construed to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take any fully protected reptile or amphibian and no such permits or licenses heretofore issued shall have any force or effect for any such purpose; except that the commission may authorize the collecting of such species for necessary scientific research. Legally imported fully protected reptiles and amphibians or parts thereof may be possessed under a permit issued by the department.

The following are fully protected reptiles and amphibians:

(a) Blunt-nosed leopard lizard (Crotaphytus wislizenii sails)

(b) San Francisco garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia)

(c) Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (Ambystoma macrodactylum croceum)

(d) Limestone salamander (Hydromantes brunus)

(e) Black toad (Bufo boreas exsul)

6300. This chapter applies to all fish and amphibia, including, but not limited to, fish and amphibia being imported or transported. This chapter does not apply to activities governed by Division 12 (commencing with Section 15000).

6301. The department is authorized to enter at any time any car, warehouse, depot, ship, or growing area where any fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants are held or stored, for the purpose of making an examination to ascertain whether such fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants are infected, diseased, or parasitized.

6302. Except as otherwise provided in Division 12 (commencing with Section 15000), all fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants found to be infected, diseased, or parasitized are a public nuisance and shall be summarily destroyed by the department.

6303. All fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants which the department determines are merely deleterious to fish, amphibia, aquatic plants, or aquatic animal life, shall be destroyed by the department, unless the owner or person in charge of the fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants ships them out of the State within a period of time to be specified by the department.

6306. The expense of any examination made necessary by the provisions of this code, shall be borne by the owner of the fish, amphibia, or aquatic plants, or the person or persons importing them into this State; provided, that the department may assume such expense in the case of fish imported to provide fishing under the authority of a sport fishing license in the public waters of this State.

6400. It is unlawful to place, plant, or cause to be placed or planted, in any waters of this state, any live fish, any fresh or salt water animal, or any aquatic plant, whether taken without or within the state, without first submitting it for inspection to, and securing the written permission of, the department.

15005. (a) When necessary for the protection of native wildlife, the commission may regulate the transportation, purchase, possession, and sale of specific aquaculture products as provided for in this section.

(b) The commission may determine that aquaculture products shall be accompanied by a document containing any of the following information:

- (1) The name, address, and registration number of the aquaculture producer.
- (2) The species.
- (3) The weight, volume or count within the container.
- (4) The date of the shipment.
- (5) The name and address of the intended receiver.

(c) The commission may require that certain aquaculture products shall be additionally identified as being aquaculture produced, except for the following:

- (1) Trout.
- (2) Catfish.
- (3) Kelp and aquatic plants.
- (4) Frogs and amphibia.
- (5) All bivalve mollusks (except little neck clams).
- (6) All members of the family Centrarchidae.
- (7) Crayfish.
- (8) Sea urchins.
- (9) Shrimp and fresh water prawns
- (10) Crab.

15102. The department may prohibit an aquaculture operation or the culturing of any species at any location where it is determined it would be detrimental to adjacent native wildlife.

15200. The commission may regulate the placing of aquatic plants and animals in waters of the state. Movement of live fish between two registered aquaculturists who are registered for those species does not require a permit.

15201. A permit is required to place fish on public or private land or water in any watershed above an established public or private fish hatchery. The department shall deny the permit if there is evidence that water quality and potential disease transfers will be adverse to the established hatchery.

15202. The commission may prohibit the placement of specific species of aquatic plants or animals in designated waters of the state. The prohibition may not include species that are found to be native or that are stocked by the state in a location where prohibition is contemplated.

15500. Upon the recommendation of the department and after consultation with the Aquaculture Disease Committee created pursuant to this chapter, the commission shall compile a list of diseases and parasites and the aquatic plants and animals they are known to infect or parasitize. All government activities relating to aquaculture disease detection, control, and eradication that do not affect human health and safety are the responsibility of the department.

15501. The department may enter, under an inspection warrant issued pursuant to Title 5 (commencing with Section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, at any time, any car, warehouse, depot, ship, or growing area where any aquatic plants or animals are held or stored, for the purpose of making an examination to ascertain whether the aquatic plants or animals are infected, diseased, or parasitized.

15505. If any of the diseases or parasites listed pursuant to Section 15500 is found to exist which the director, in consultation with the Aquaculture Disease Committee and consistent with the regulations adopted under Section 15504, deems to be detrimental to the aquaculture industry or to wild stocks of aquatic plants and animals, the director may do any of the following:

- (a) Establish the area to be quarantined and list the aquatic plants and animals affected by it.
- (b) Post notices describing, as nearly as possible, the boundaries of an area within which specific disease or parasite infestations are found. Notices posted pursuant to this subdivision shall be published once a week for four successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the infected area is located. If there is no newspaper of general circulation in that county, then the notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in an adjoining county.
- (c) Hold and impound diseased or parasitized plants and animals.
- (d) Forbid, prevent, or restrict the movement of all plants and animals subject to the disease or parasite from or into the area, or from place to place within it, during the existence of the quarantine.
- (e) Order the destruction and disposal of diseased or parasitized plants and animals consistent with Section 15504.

15506. Except for those diseases in the list compiled pursuant to Section 15500, infected plants or animals shall not be quarantined or destroyed, unless the director, in consultation with the Aquaculture Disease Committee, finds that an outbreak of aquatic disease among privately cultured plants or animals presents a threat to the aquaculture industry or to fish life or plant life.

15600. No live aquatic plant or animal may be imported into this state without the prior written approval of the department pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission.

15601. A written application for the importation submitted in conformance with the procedural requirements established by the commission is deemed to be approved where it has not been denied within 60 days.

APPENDIX B

Regulations Pertaining to the Importation of Aquatic Plants and Animals

135. Transportation, Possession and Sale of Imported Sturgeon, Striped Bass, Steelhead Trout and Shad.

All imported sturgeon, striped bass, steelhead trout and shad shall be imported, transported, possessed and sold as provided in this section. This section applies to fish commercially taken out-of-state and not to those species grown by registered aquaculturists in this state.

(a) At least 12-hour prior notice by the shipper or consignee of each shipment of such fish shall be provided for the department's regional office nearest the consignee during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

(b) Such fish must be accompanied by a bill of lading, waybill, invoice or similar accountable document showing the place of origin of the shipment, the name and address of the consignee and a listing of all fish by species, total weight and tag number.

(c) The consignee shall retain a copy of the bill of lading or similar accountable document for one year and make it available to the department upon request.

(d) All dead fish or parts thereof, may be imported, transported, or sold within the state in any form but shall be either:

(1) Packaged in sealed containers or boxes. Each container or box shall be clearly labelled showing a description of the contents and an identification of the shipper; or

(2) Tagged with consecutively numbered cinch-up vinyl plastic spaghetti tags with a legend showing the name of the shipper along with the city and state of origin. The tag sequence shall be present on all invoices and waybills. Reusable tags may not be possessed in the State of California. When tags are removed from the fish they must be destroyed by cutting through that portion of the tag which contains the name of the shipper and the tag number; or

(3) Clearly marked, using liquid nitrogen and a metal brand, with an "A", ½ inch square, posterior to the head, anterior to the dorsal fin and above the lateral line. All fish shall be marked when alive but may be killed prior to transport or sale.

(e) All live fish may be imported, transported or sold within the state in any form but shall be either tagged or marked as described in subsections (d)(2) or (d)(3).

(f) Fish tagged, marked and/or packaged under subsections (d) or (e) above may be processed and repackaged or retagged by dealers possessing a Wholesale Fish Dealer's and Processor's License as provided by Section 8040 of the Fish and Game Code as well as a revocable processing permit issued by the Wildlife Protection Branch of the department specifically for striped bass, sturgeon and steelhead trout. The permit shall be issued free of charge on a calendar year basis, or part thereof. When transported for sale such fish or portions of fish shall meet the transportation requirements of subsections (b) and (c).

(g) No such fish may be possessed at a place where fish are sold unless packaged, marked or tagged in the manner described in subsections (d) or (e) except that operators or employees of retail stores, restaurants or other eating establishments may remove portions from packaged, marked or tagged fish when such portions are being prepared for immediate sale to a consumer or for immediate consumption on the premises.

(h) The permit issued pursuant to subsection (f) may be cancelled or suspended at any time by the department upon conviction of a violation of these regulations by a court of competent jurisdiction. Cancellation or suspension may be appealed to the commission.

171. Importation of Live Catfish.

No live catfish of the following species: channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*), white catfish (*Ictalurus catus*), flathead catfish (*Pylodictis olivaris*), brown bullhead (*Ictalurus nebulosus*), black bullhead (*Ictalurus melas*) or yellow bullhead (*Ictalurus natalis*) may be imported into California.

236. Importation of Live Aquatic Plants and Animals.

The provisions of this section shall apply to the importation of all live aquatic plants and animals.

(a) No person shall import into this state any prohibited species of live aquatic plant or animal listed pursuant to Section 2118 of the Fish and Game Code or Section 671 of these regulations unless specifically authorized by the Commission.

(b) Unless specifically prohibited by these regulations, plants and animals within the following groups may be imported without an Importation Permit from the department:

(1) Mollusks and crustaceans intended to go directly into the seafood market and which will not be placed into the waters of the state nor placed in waters which are discharged to waters of the state.

(2) Live ornamental tropical marine or freshwater plants or animals that are not utilized for human consumption or bait purposes, are maintained in closed systems for personal, pet industry or hobby purposes, and which will not be placed in waters of the state.

(3) Brine shrimp.

(c) With the exception of those importations described in Section 236 (a) and (b), live aquatic plants and animals may be imported into this state only in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

(1) A standard Importation Permit signed by the director or his agent is required, and no shipment into the state may be made prior to the issuance of the permit authorizing the shipment. The department shall charge a fee for issuing each permit. Fees charged for inspections shall be independent of the fees charged for issuing permits.

(2) With the exceptions of the live aquatic animals listed in subsection 236(c)(6), a permit is required for each lot or load, and each shipment must be accompanied by the original copy of the Importation Permit. Unless otherwise authorized, the person who is to receive any shipment of aquatic plants and animals shall apply to the department for this Importation Permit.

(3) Application for a standard Importation Permit shall be made on a form (Application for Standard Importation Permit, FG 789 (2/91), which is incorporated by reference herein supplied by the department, as directed in Section 235(d) and shall reach the department's headquarters office at least 10 working days in advance of the probable arrival date of the shipment. A copy of the permit authorized by the director or his agent must accompany each load.

If a change in date of shipment becomes necessary after a permit has been issued, the permittee shall notify the Aquaculture Development Section at least 5 days before the new date of shipment. Under special circumstances, the department may waive this 5-day notice requirement.

(4) All live aquatic plants and animals imported into California may be inspected by the department, either at the place of entry into the state or at other locations suitable to the department. The person importing the aquatic plants or animals may be required to provide facilities for inspecting and sorting them, and may be required to pay inspection costs, including salary and travel expenses of the inspector.

(5) Any lot or load of aquatic plants and animals found by the inspector to be diseased, parasitized or to contain species not authorized by the Importation Permit must be immediately destroyed or transported out of California within a period of time specified by the department. In such cases, the Importation Permit is automatically revoked.

(6) In lieu of the permits specified in Section 236(c)(1), long-term permits for the following aquatic animals may be issued by the department for periods of up to one year. Application shall be made on a

form (Application for Long-term Permit to Import Animals into California, FG 786 (2/92), which is incorporated by reference herein, supplied by the department. The department shall charge a fee for issuing each permit.

- (A) Oyster, oyster larvae and oyster seed.
- (B) Ghost shrimps (Callinassa spp).
- (C) Mud shrimps (Upogebia spp).
- (D) Longjaw mudsuckers (Gillichthys microlepidotus).
- (E) Red swamp crayfish (Procambarus clarkii).
- (F) Orconectes virilis.
- (G) Marine Annelid worms (Phylum Annelida).
- (H) Sacramento blackfish (Orthodon microlepidotus).

(I) Other species under conditions which the department determines represent no significant risk to the fish and wildlife resources of the state.

(7) Importation of Salmonid Eggs. Applications to import eggs of fishes of the family salmonidae (trout, salmon and char) shall be accompanied by a health certificate signed by a person competent in the diagnosis of fish diseases stating that the hatchery or other sources of the eggs to be imported and the eggs themselves are free of the following diseases: infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN); bacterial kidney disease (BKD); infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN); and viral hemorrhagic septicemia (Egtved).

In questionable cases, the director of the department shall determine whether or not the person making the certification is technically qualified to do so.

(8) Only those aquatic plants and animals lawfully obtained in another state or country may be imported.

238. Sale and Transportation of Aquatic Plants and Animals.

This section does not apply to the importation of live aquatic plants and animals described in Section 236 of these regulations.

No person shall sell or transport aquaculture products in this state except in accordance with the following general terms and conditions:

(a) All aquaculture products sold or transported under the provisions of this section must have been legally reared or imported by an aquaculturist registered in this state.

(b) Sales between registered aquaculturists.

(1) A registered aquaculturist may sell and transport live aquaculture products authorized by that registration to any other aquaculturist authorized to possess the same species.

(2) All shipments of authorized aquaculture products shall be accompanied by a duplicate of a sales invoice or waybill showing the name of the producer, the producer's aquaculture registration number, date of shipment, the species being transported, the weight, volume or count of each species in the shipment, and the name and address of the consignee.

(3) Duplicates of the required sale of shipping documents shall be retained for a period of one year from the date of sale. The records shall be shown upon written demand by the director of the department. The information contained in these documents is confidential except that such information may be disclosed in accordance with a proper judicial order in cases or actions instituted for enforcement of this section or for prosecution of violations of this section.

(c) A registered aquaculturist may sell and transport live those aquaculture products authorized by that registration to any of the following whose licenses or permits authorize the possession of the same live plants and animals for commercial purposes.

(1) Scientific or educational establishments;

(2) Aquarium Dealer Permittees (See Section 227 of these regulations);

(3) Live Freshwater Bait Fish Licensees (See Sections 200 through 200.32 of these regulations);

(4) To any other legal purchaser or possessor for whom possession is legal. Documents as described in Section 238(b)(2) shall accompany each shipment. Under no condition may these aquaculture products be stocked in any lake, pond, or stream.

(d) Except for live bivalve mollusks, the operator of any commercial establishment where aquaculture products are maintained alive for human consumption shall retain copies of all sales invoices or waybills received with the products. Such invoices or waybills shall be retained by the operator for a period of at least one year following receipt of the aquaculture products listed thereon, and such invoices or waybills shall be produced upon request of an official of the department. All aquaculture products, except live shellfish, sold and leaving the premises of the dealer shall be killed and accompanied by a sales receipt showing the date of purchase and name of business where purchased or be packaged in accordance with Section 240 of these regulations. Under no condition shall these aquaculture products be stocked in any waters of this state.

(e) Marking and Tagging Requirements.

(1) Abalone.

(A) All abalone produced by an aquaculturist registered pursuant to Section 15101 of the Fish and Game Code may be possessed, harvested, sold, and transported, provided the abalone are identifiable as being cultivated.

Such abalone is exempt from the size limits established by Section 8304 of the Fish and Game Code.

(B) Abalone which spend part of their life in marine waters of the state, other than while in an aquaculture facility, must have an identifying mark or tag approved by the department. Such identifying mark must be approved, or a tag attached, prior to the abalone being placed in waters outside the aquaculture facility. For purposes of this section, the term "aquaculture facility" includes a hatchery, rearing facility, pen, cage, or any similar structure or device.

(C) Any person other than a registered aquaculturist processing cultured abalone at the wholesale level must possess a whole fish dealer's and processor's license as provided by Section 8040 of the Fish and Game Code as well as a revocable processing permit for cultured abalone, as issued by the department.

(f) Retail Sales of Aquaculture Products at an Aquaculture Facility.

All aquaculture products sold at an aquaculture facility shall be dead at the time of sale except for:

(1) Aquaculture products sold under the provisions of Sections 238(c) and 238.5.

(2) Striped bass, steelhead trout, and sturgeon sold pursuant to the provisions of Section 240.

(3) Marine Aquaculture Products. Such retail sales of aquaculture products taken from the aquaculture facility by the purchaser need only be accompanied by a sales receipt showing the name and aquaculture registration number of the producer, the item(s) and quantity purchased and the date of purchase. All other shipments of aquaculture products shall be accompanied by a sales invoice or waybill as provided in Section 238(b)(2).

(4) Those freshwater bait fishes that would be legal for sale as live bait by a licensed Live Freshwater Bait Fish Dealer in the same sport fishing district or portion of sport fishing district in which the aquaculture facility is located (see Sections 4.10 through 4.30 and Sections 200.13 through 200.31 for legal live bait fishes).

240. Transportation, Possession and Sale of Sturgeon, Striped Bass, Hybrid Striped Bass (Striped Bass Crossed with White Bass) and Steelhead Trout Produced or Imported by Registered Aquaculturists for Aquaculture Purposes.

All sturgeon, striped bass, hybrid striped bass and steelhead trout produced or imported by registered aquaculturists for aquaculture purposes shall be transported, possessed and sold as provided in this section. For purposes of these regulations, aquaculture products are products of aquaculture as defined

by Section 17 of the Fish and Game Code.

(a) Such aquaculture products must be accompanied by a duplicate of a sales invoice or waybill, showing the name and address of the producer, the producer's aquaculture registration number, date of shipment, the species being transported, the weight, volume, or count of each species in the shipment, the name and address of the intended receiver and tag number if subject tag is required.

(b) The consignee shall retain a copy of the bill of lading or similar accountable document for one year and make it available to the department upon request.

(c) Live aquaculture products are not subject to the provisions of subsections (c), (d) and (e). All dead aquaculture products or parts thereof, except hybrid striped bass sold whole or in the round with the head attached, transported or sold within the state pursuant to this section shall be either:

(1) Packaged in sealed containers or boxes. Each container or box shall be clearly labelled showing a description of the contents and an identification of the shipper; or

(2) Tagged with consecutively numbered cinch-up vinyl plastic spaghetti tags with a legend showing the name of the shipper along with the city and state or origin. The tag sequence shall be present on all invoices and waybills. Reusable tags may not be possessed in the State of California. When tags are removed from the aquaculture products they must be destroyed by cutting through that portion of the tag which contains the name of the shipper and the tag number;

(3) Clearly marked, using liquid nitrogen and a metal band, with an "A", ½-inch square, posterior to the head, anterior to the dorsal fin and above the lateral line. All aquaculture products shall be marked when alive but may be killed prior to transport or sale.

(d) No such dead aquaculture products may be possessed at a place where aquaculture products are sold unless packaged, marked or tagged in the manner described in subsection (c) except that operators or employees of retail stores, restaurants or other eating establishments may remove portions from packaged, marked or tagged aquaculture products when such portions are being displayed or prepared for actual sale to a consumer or for actual consumption on the premises.

(e) Aquaculture products tagged, marked and/or packaged under subsection (c) above may be processed and repackaged or retagged by dealers possessing a revocable processing permit issued by the Wildlife Protection Division of the department specifically for striped bass, hybrid striped bass, sturgeon and steelhead trout. The permit shall be issued free of charge on a calendar year basis, or part thereof. When transported for sale such aquaculture products or portions of aquaculture products shall meet the transportation requirements of subsections (a) and (b).

(f) Live aquaculture products may not be imported except in accordance with Section 236, Title 14, California Administrative Code.

(g) Live hybrid striped bass may not be imported or possessed by registered aquaculturists except under the terms of a permit issued by the department, specifying conditions under which these aquaculture products may be reared and transported. Requests for permits shall be submitted to the Department of Fish and Game Aquaculture Development Section, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

(h) Live hybrid striped bass shall only be possessed or sold in Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Lassen and Modoc counties.

(i) All aquaculture products held live for retail sale shall be killed at the time of sale and be dead before leaving the retailer's premises, and under no condition may these aquaculture products be stocked in any lake, pond or stream.

238.5. Stocking of Aquaculture Products.

Upon stocking, aquaculture products are wild and therefore "fish" as defined by Section 45 of the Fish and Game Code, except when stocked into a registered aquaculture facility. No person shall stock aquaculture products in this state except in accordance with the following general terms and conditions:

(a) All aquaculture products stocked under these provisions must be legally reared or possessed by an aquaculturist registered in this state. No person shall stock aquaculture products which are parasitized, diseased or of an unauthorized species.

(b) Live aquaculture products shipped to Inyo or Mono counties must be certified by the department as disease and parasite-free before being stocked in waters in those counties.

(c) A registered aquaculturist producing or possessing rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), redear sunfish (*Lepomis microlophus*), Sacramento perch (*Archoplites interruptus*), channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) and white catfish (*Ictalurus catus*), may stock these species under the following terms and conditions.

Only publicly owned lakes covered by a cooperative agreement between the department and the lake operator and privately owned reservoirs, lakes and ponds in the following counties or portions thereof may be stocked without a stocking permit: Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, except in the Kern River drainage above Democrat Dam; Kings, Lake except in the Eel River drainage; Los Angeles, Merced, Napa, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Joaquin, Santa Barbara, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba; those portions of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer and Tuolumne west of Highway 49; Fresno west of the Sierra and Sequoia National Forest boundaries; Madera west of the Sierra National Forest boundary; and Tulare west of the Sequoia National Forest and Sequoia National Park boundaries.

(d) Except for those species listed in Section 238.5(c) when planted into those specific areas and waters covered in Section 238.5(c), no person shall stock aquatic plants and animals except as follows:

(1) Each stocking of fish shall require a separate Private Stocking Permit (FG 749 (Rev. 5/93), which is incorporated by reference herein) issued by the department. A copy of this permit shall accompany all shipments. However, a copy of the same permit (FG 749 (Rev. 5/93)) may be used for additional consignments of the same species when stocked in the same water or waters, until canceled by the department. See subsection 699(b) of these regulations for the fee for this permit.

(2) Application for the private stocking permit shall be made to the regional manager of the Fish and Game region in which the fish are to be stocked. An application will be supplied to each applicant upon request.

(3) No person shall stock any species of fish in any water in which the stocking of such fish is contrary to the fisheries management programs of the department for that water or drainage, or in any water from which such fish might escape to other waters where such fish are not already present. All applicants will be advised upon request of the said departmental fisheries management programs.

(4) Permittee shall notify the regional office of the department not less than 10 days in advance of stocking in order to make arrangements for inspection. Such inspection may be waived at the discretion of the department. If, upon inspection, diseased or parasitized fish or fish of unauthorized species are found by the department to be present, they shall be disposed of by the permittee as directed by the department. The department may require that the expense of any inspection made necessary by the provisions of these regulations be borne by the permittee.

(5) A stocking permit may be canceled or suspended by the department upon conviction of a violation of these regulations by a court of competent jurisdiction. Cancellation or suspension may be appealed to the commission.

(6) A stocking permit is valid only when signed by the applicant.

(e) A registered aquaculturist selling and transporting aquatic plants and animals for the purpose of stocking in this state shall retain copies of documents required by Section 15005(b) of the Fish and Game Code for a period of three years following stocking of the fish. The documents shall be shown upon written demand by the director of the department. The information contained in the documents is confidential

except that such information may be disclosed in accordance with a proper judicial order in cases or actions instituted for enforcement of this section or for prosecution of violations of this section.

(f) Except for Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial counties, mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) may be planted for purposes of mosquito control without obtaining a permit otherwise required by these regulations. In Inyo and Mono counties and in public waters of San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial counties, mosquitofish may not be planted without the written concurrence of the department.

671. Importation, Transportation and Possession of Live Restricted Animals.

(a) It shall be unlawful to import, transport, or possess alive animals restricted in subsection (c) below except under permit issued by the Department of Fish and Game. Permits may be issued by the department as specified herein and for purposes designated in Section 671.1 subject to the conditions and restrictions designated by the department. Except for mammals listed in Fish and Game Code Section 3950 or live aquatic animals requiring a permit pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2271, no permit is required by this section for any animal being imported, transported, or possessed pursuant to any other permit issued by the department. Cities and counties may also prohibit possession or require a permit for these and any other species not requiring a state permit.

(b) The commission has determined the below listed animals are not normally domesticated in this state. Mammals listed to prevent the depletion of wild populations and to provide for animal welfare are termed "welfare animals", and are designated by the letter "W". Those species listed because they pose a threat to native wildlife, the agriculture interests of the state or to public health or safety are termed "detrimental animals" and are designated by the letter "D". The department shall include the list of welfare and detrimental wild animals as part of DFG MANUAL NO. 671 IMPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF RESTRICTED SPECIES, to be made available to all permittees and other interested individuals.

(a) Restricted species include:

...NOTE: SUBSECTIONS (1) (BIRDS) AND (2) (MAMMALS) ARE OMITTED...

(3) Class Amphibia-Frogs, Toads, Salamanders

(A) Family Bufonidae-Toads

Bufo marinus, *Bufo paracnemis*, *Bufo horribilis* (Giant toad or marine toad group) and all other large toads from Mexico and Central and South America-(D).

(B) Family Pipidae-Tongueless Toads

All species of Genus *Xenopus*-(D).

(4) Class Agnatha-Jawless Fishes

(A) Family Petromyzontidae-Lampreys

All nonnative species-(D).

(5) Class Osteichthyes-Bony Fishes

(A) Family Percichthyidae-Temperate Basses

1. The species *Morone americana* (White perch)-(D).

2. The species *Morone chrysops* (White bass)-(D).

(B) Family Clupeidae-Herrings

Dorosoma cepedianum (Gizzard shad)-(D).

(C) Family Sciaenidae-Drums

Aplodinotus grunniens (Freshwater drum)-(D).

(D) Family Characidae-Characins

1. *Astyanax fasciatus* (Banded tetra)-(D).

2. All species of genera *Serrasalmus*, *Serrasalmo*, *Pygocentrus*, *Taddyella*, *Rooseveltiella*, and *Pygopristi* (Piranhas)-(D).

3. *Hoplias malabaricus* (Tigerfish)-(D).
- (E) Family Salmonidae-Trouts
 - Salmo salar* Atlantic salmon) - Restricted in the Smith River watershed-(D).
- (F) Family Lepisosteidae-Gars
 - All species-(D).
- (G) Family Amiidae-Bowfins
 - All species-(D).
- (H) Family Poeciliidae-Livebearers
 - Belonesox belizanus* (Pike killifish)-(D).
- (I) Family Channidae-Snakeheads
 - All species-(D).
- (J) Family Cyprinidae-Carps and Minnows
 1. *Leuciscus idus* (ide)-(D).
 2. *Ctenopharyngodon idella* (Grass carp)-(D), except that permits may be issued to a person, organization or agency for possession of triploid grass carp, under conditions set forth in Section 238.6.
 3. *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix* (Silver carp)-(D).
 4. *Aristichthys nobilis* (Bighead carp)-(D).
- (K) Family Trichomycteridae (*Pygidiidae*)-Parasitic Catfishes
 - All species-(D).
- (L) Family Cetopsidae-Whalelike Catfishes.
 - All species-(D).
- (M) Family Clariidae-Labyrinth Catfishes
 - All species of the genera *Clarias*, *Dinotopterus*, and *Heterobranchus*-(D).
- (N) Family Heteropneustidae (Saccobranchidae)-Airsac Catfishes
 - All species-(D).
- (O) Family Cichlidae-Cichlids
 1. *Tilapia sparrmani* (Banded tilapia)-(D).
 2. *Tilapia zilli* (Redbelly tilapia)-(D), except permits may be issued to a person or agency for importation, transportation, or possession in the counties of San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial.
 3. *Tilapia aurea* (Blue tilapia)-(D).
 4. *Tilapia nilotica* (Nile tilapia)-(D).
- (P) Family Anguillidae-Freshwater Eels.
 - All species of genus *Anguilla*-(D).
- (Q) Family Esocidae-Pikes all species-(D).
- (R) Family Percidae-Perches
 1. *Perca flavescens* (Yellow perch)-(D).
 2. *Stizostedion vitreum* (Walleye)-(D).
- (S) Family Catostomidae-Suckers
 - All members of the genus *Ictiobus* (Buffalos)-(D).
- (T) Family Cyprinodontidae-Killifishes
 - Cyprinodon variegatus* (Sheepshead minnow)-(D).
- (6) Class Elasmobranchiomorpha-Cartilaginous Fishes
- (A) Family Carcharhinidae-Requiem Sharks
 - All species of genus *Carcharhinus* (Freshwater sharks)-(D).
- (B) Family Potamotrygonidae-River stingrays
 - All species-(D).

- (7) Class Reptilia-Reptiles
 - (A) Order Crocodilia-Crocodiles, Caimans, Alligators and Gavials
All species-(D).
 - (B) Family Chelyridae-Snapping turtles
All species-(D).
 - (C) Family Elapidae-Cobras, Coral Snakes, Mambas, Kraits, etc.
All species-(D).
 - (D) Family Viperidae-Adders and Vipers
All species-(D).
 - (E) Family Crotalidae-Pit Vipers
All species (D), except *Crotalus viridis* (Western rattlesnake), *Crotalus atrox* (Western diamondback rattlesnake), *Crotalus ruber* (red diamondback rattlesnake), *Crotalus scutulatus* (Mojave rattlesnake), *Crotalus mitchelli* (Speckled rattlesnake) and *Crotalus cerastes* (Sidewinder) not restricted.
 - (F) Family Colubridae-Colubrids
 - 1. *Dispholidus typus* (Boomslang)-(D).
 - 2. *Theoltornis kitlandii* (Bird or vine snake)-(D).
 - (G) Family Helodermatidae
 - 1. *Heloderma suspectum suspectum* (reticulate Gila monster)-(D).
- (8) Class Crustacea-Crustaceans
 - (A) All species of Family Cambaridae-Crayfish, etc.-(D), except *Procambarus clarkii* and *Orconectes virilis* not restricted.
 - (B) All species of genus *Eriocheir*-(D).
- (9) Class Gastropoda-Slugs, Snails
 - All nonnative species of slugs and land snails-(D), except:
 - (A) *Rumina decollata* (decollate snail) in the counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial, Orange, San Diego, Los Angeles, Ventura, Kern, Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Santa Barbara not restricted with the concurrence of the appropriate county agricultural commissioners.
 - (B) *Helix aspersa* (brown garden snail) not prohibited.
- (10) Class Bivalvia-Bivalves
 - All members of the genus *Dreissena* (zebra mussels)-(D).

APPENDIX C
INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE

The fee schedule for the inspection of live aquatic plants and animals imported into California is based on the actual cost of the inspection to the Department. Effective June 1, 2005, the following inspection fees will be charged:

At all locations more than one hour travel time, one way, from the Department's Fish Health Laboratory at Rancho Cordova, CA a flat fee of \$204.00

At the importer's facility which is more than one hour travel from the Rancho Cordova Fish Health Laboratory \$204.00.

At the importers facility which is less than one hour travel from the Rancho Cordova Fish Health Laboratory \$85.00.

At the Department's Rancho Cordova Fish Health Laboratory \$33.00

Travel time, expenses, and one hour of time for the inspection are included in the above fees. Any additional standby time will be charged to the importer at the rate of \$33.00 per hour.

Importers must include the basic inspection fee along with any application for an Importation Permit. Applications received without the fee cannot be processed. When a shipment is cancelled, fees will be returned or can be credited toward a future inspection if the Department is notified of the cancellation at least five days before the scheduled inspection date.

If you have any questions regarding the revised fee schedule, contact the Department at the Fisheries Branch, 830 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 445-0826.