

Memorandum

Date: January 20, 2011

To: Sonke Mastrup, Deputy Director, Wildlife and Fisheries Division
Susan LaGrande, Deputy Director, Legislative and External Affairs
California Department of Fish and Game

From: Kevin Shaffer
Environmental Program Manager
California Department of Fish and Game

Subject: Initial List of Anadromous Fish Passage Statewide Priority Barriers

In 2008, the departments of Fish and Game (Department) and Transportation (Caltrans) met with staff from the Assembly committees on Natural Resources and Transportation to discuss joint agency collaboration on prioritizing and remediating fish barriers to anadromous fish migration. In addition to the expectation that both agencies would develop a mutual list of priority barriers occurring along transportation corridors, a request was made to the Department to provide a statewide list of priority barriers based on significance to fish migration and independent of who manages or is responsible for the stream crossing.

The Department has since developed an evaluation process to produce the initial list of important migration barriers. The list attached presents the top priorities in sixteen coastal and Central Valley counties for fish passage improvement. Barriers are listed by county and include the site and water course where the barrier exists. This list was compiled by Regional biologists, supervisors, and Fisheries Branch. The prioritization process considered the following criteria: 1) high likelihood to improve migration for anadromous species; 2) availability of recent data of fish and habitat; 3) willing partners and land access; 4) known political support at a local, State or national level; 5) the site is a barrier to a federal recovery plan "Core" population; 6) the watercourse is an eco-regional significant watershed; 7) the Department is committed to monitoring before, during and after any barrier improvement project is undertaken; and 8) the site is considered to be a "keystone barrier", meaning the barrier was the lower-most in that river or creek.

The Department continues to work with Caltrans in developing a joint list of top barrier sites along transportation corridors and may have that list for both committees by the fall of 2011. If a co-agency list is not achieved, the Department is now in a position to share our independent priorities, some of which are within Caltrans' right-of-way. In addition, the Department is working with other signatory members of the California Fish Passage Forum to develop an inter-agency prioritization process to be used for future evaluation and prioritization of fish barriers. The attached list will serve as the Department's priority list until the inter-agency prioritization is developed and

implemented. Fisheries Branch and Regional programs will review the list annually and will provide any revisions to you and other Department leadership. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 327- 8841.

Attachment

cc: Department of Fish and Game
Julie Oltmann, Legislative Representative
Stafford Lehr, Chief, Fisheries Branch
Fred Jurick, Water Branch
Mary Larson, South Coast Region
Margaret Paul, Central Region
Eric Larson, Bay Delta Region
Mike Healey, North Central Region
Curtis Milliron, Northern Region

Department of Fish and Game Statewide Priority Anadromous Fish Passage Barriers
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County	Barrier and Watercourse
San Diego	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Highway 76 bridge, Pauma Creek ▪ Water District road crossing, San Luis Rey
Orange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Metrolink Railroad Bridge, Trabuco Creek ▪ Interstate 5 San Diego Highway, Trabuco Creek
Ventura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Matilija Dam, Matilija Creek on the Ventura River ▪ Gorge Camp Crossing, North Fork of Matilija Creek on the Ventura River ▪ Ojai Valley Bike Trail, San Antonio Creek on the Ventura River
Los Angeles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lower Arizona crossing at Leo Carrillo State Park, Arroyo Sequit Creek ▪ Ringe Dam, Malibu Creek
Santa Barbara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arizona Crossing and road at Gaviota, Gaviota Creek ▪ Arizona Crossing 2, Quiota Creek ▪ Caltrans Concrete Channel, Mission Creek ▪ Concrete channelization, San Jose Creek
San Luis Obispo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gauging Station, Arroyo Grande Creek ▪ Union Pacific Railroad crossing, Pismo Creek ▪ Ferrasci Road, Santa Rosa Creek
Monterey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Los Padres Dam, Carmel River ▪ San Clemente Dam, Carmel River ▪ Old Carmel Dam, Carmel River ▪ Sleepy Hollow crossing, Carmel River
Santa Cruz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laurel Mill Dam, West Branch Soquel Creek
San Mateo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Denil Ladder at Alpine and Pescadero roads, Alpine Creek ▪ Pescadero Creek Road, Honsinger Creek
Alameda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Middle rubber dam, Alameda Creek
San Joaquin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bellota Weir, Mormon Slough ▪ Central CA Traction Railroad crossing, Stockton Diverting Channel
Marin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sir Francis Drake Boulevard culvert, Larsen Creek ▪ Railroad Avenue culvert, North Fork of San Geronimo Creek ▪ Roy's Pool & San Geronimo Golf Course, San Geronimo Creek
Sonoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purrington Creek ▪ Wallace Creek ▪ Willow Creek Road Bridge 2, Willow Creek
Napa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Highway 29 Caltrans culvert, Ritchie Creek ▪ Bothe State Park culverts, Ritchie Creek
Sacramento	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two dams on Dry Creek
Sutter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sunset Pumps Diversion Dam, Feather River
Placer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hemphill Dam, Auburn Ravine

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Mendocino	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cottonwood Lake Dam, Miners Ravine▪ Dam on Secret Ravine▪ Cedar Creek▪ Gulch Creek▪ North Fork of Ryan Creek▪ South Fork Noyo ECS, South Fork Noyo River
Tehama	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Edwards Division, Antelope Creek▪ Paynes Place Crossing & Facht Slabs, Antelope Creek▪ Stanford Vina Dam Fish Ladders, Deer Creek▪ Red Bluff Diversion Dam, Sacramento River
Tehama / Shasta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Battle Creek Restoration Project dams, Battle Creek
Shasta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Millville Irrigation, Clover Creek
Trinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Red Hill Road, Conner Creek▪ Oddfellows, Little Grass Valley Creek▪ Denny Road, Quinby Creek▪ Highway 299 Weaverville, Weaver Creek
Humboldt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Shelter Cove Road, Dinner Creek▪ Avenue of the Giants, Fish Creek
Siskiyou	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Highway 96, Fort Goff Creek▪ Cardoza Dam, Parks Creek▪ Youngs Dam, Scott River▪ Grenada Dam, Shasta River
Del Norte	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Highway 197, Little Mill Creek▪ Highway 197, Sultan Creek