



8 November 2011

**CALIFORNIA
AQUACULTURE
ASSOCIATION**

*P.O. Box 807
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Rob Ross
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Jim Kellogg, President
California Fish and Game Commission
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Re: Proposed DFG fish stocking regulations. Position: Opposed

Dear President and Commissioners:

Please be advised that the California Aquaculture Association is opposed to the department's proposed hatchery and fish stocking regulations. These regulations will have a devastating impact on California's aquaculture industry. The regulations will have a direct negative impact on jobs, our customers and the economy of the State of California.

Existing regulations dedicated to which species of fish can be raised, how, where and under what conditions they may be raised has proven to be effective in protecting the environment and allowing the industry to meet demand for our products.

The regulations proposed by the department are unnecessary, confusing, and don't appear to be supported by science. The proposed regulations contain testing protocols and procedures that would be next to impossible to adhere to and will, therefore, delay or possibly prevent stocking and restocking of ponds that have been stocked for nearly a century with little or no protection of resources of the state. The result of this will be a dramatic decrease in fish availability to consumers and will ultimately deny fishing opportunities for California citizens.

CAA does not see the value nor the need for a change in existing regulations.

We respectfully request your no vote on the proposed DFG stocking regulations.

Thank you.

Greg Dale
President
California Aquaculture Association

CC: The Honorable Governor Edmund Jr. Brown, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814