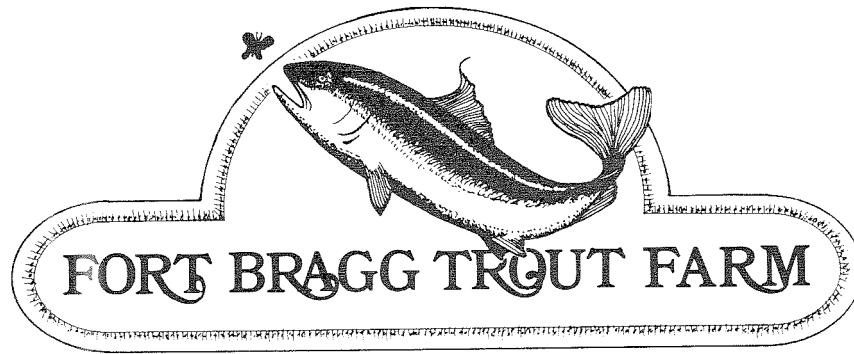


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27 Sept 2011

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

RE: Fish Stocking Regulations

Dear President and Commissioners,

The Department of Fish and Game's proposed fish stocking regulations threaten my family business that has been in operation over half a century and supports over 30 other families.

Given that California grows some of the healthiest fish in the world under existing regulations, there is no need for additional and costly regulations, especially during these tough economic times. Penalizing recreation for kids, and at charitable fish derbys and family owned ponds is just wrong.

By some estimates, these unprecedented regulations could cost property owners upwards of tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands of dollars, depending on the location and size of the water body; this expense may be even more for fish hatcheries. Such costs will have a devastating impact on California's aquaculture industry and will result in fishing lakes and fishponds to be simply abandoned all together. Our business supports many other local businesses. We are proud of what we do and work hard.

These regulations not only threaten my livelihood, they also threaten California's economy. With less fish provided by private hatcheries and stocking ponds recreational fishing will decline, threatening California's outdoor industry as well as communities dependent on recreational tourism. In addition, consumers will suffer higher prices when California grown fish is no longer available at their local grocery store and restaurant.

These regulations in enacted will only open the door to a black market for fish. Many frustrated small pond owners will simply poach or bring their own fish home from other waters – in short the regulations would actually make matters worse.

When considering your decision, please consider my livelihood and California's economy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Domenici

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