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November 17, 2011

Mr. Jim Kellogg, President
California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Title 14: Stocking of Aquaculture Products

Dear Mr. Kellogg:

On behalf of the thirty-one member counties of the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), I am writing to express concerns with the Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) proposed changes to the fish stocking regulations.

As you know, the DFG proposed regulations include changes to the private fish stocking permit program. Concerns have been raised as to the impact the proposed regulations will have on private hatcheries and fish stocking operations, in particular the cost of compliance with the proposed regulations.

Private hatcheries and fish stocking operations provide recreational opportunities in, and economic benefits to, our rural counties. As the proposed regulations are the subject of legal action, RCRC requests that the members of the Commission delay consideration of the proposed regulations pending completion of the legal proceedings.

In conclusion, RCRC sincerely appreciates your consideration of the concerns raised and the delay requested.

Sincerely,

Kathy Mannion
Legislative Advocate

cc: Members, California Fish and Game Commission
Director Chuck Bonham, Department of Fish and Game