

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



May 10, 2005

Mr. Brian Stranko  
California Trout  
870 Market Street, Suite 528  
San Francisco, Ca 94102

Mr. David Katz  
Trout Unlimited  
1120 College Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Mr. Phil Greenlee  
Northern California Council –  
Federation of Fly Fishers  
1911 Bechelli Lane  
Redding, CA 96002

Dear Messrs. Stranko, Katz and Greenlee:

This letter responds to your concerns about the Department of Fish and Game's (Department's) letter of November 12, 2004, to NOAA Fisheries regarding the appropriate listing status for California salmonids.

As we discussed in our January meeting, we concur that the declining trend in abundance of the anadromous life-history form of Central Valley *O. mykiss* has not improved since NOAA's 1996 status review. As you are aware, when NOAA Fisheries first listed Central Valley *O. mykiss* as threatened in 1998, they only included the anadromous life-history form. The anadromous form of Central Valley *O. mykiss* is clearly in trouble. However, NOAA's current proposal would also include the resident form and hatchery-origin fish from Coleman National Fish Hatchery and the Department's Feather River hatchery. This has greatly complicated the assessment of this ESU relative to the proper listing status for *O. mykiss*.

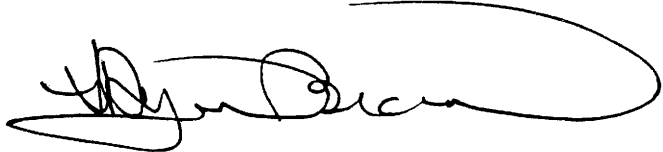
While we recognize that we do not have all the necessary data to directly assess all VSP criteria for the Central Valley *O. mykiss* ESU, the Department's earlier letter provided data that we felt were relevant to this assessment. We support restoration and management actions that focus on all *O. mykiss* life history forms and the maintenance of conditions that allow the expression of the full range of migratory and resident behaviors essential for the continued viability of the species.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*

Mr. Brian Stank  
Mr. David Katz  
Mr. Phil Greenlee  
May 9, 2005  
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Thank you for your continued support for the successful management of the state's fisheries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Ryan Brodrick", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**L. RYAN BRODRICK**  
Director

cc: Mr. Craig Wingert  
NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Region  
501 West Ocean blvd. Ste. 4300  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4221

Department of Fish and Game

Sonke Mastrup, Deputy Director, WIFD  
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