

July 11, 2005

Mr. Charles P. Bucaria, Sr.  
Federation of Fly Fishers  
Northern California Council  
7441 Center Parkway  
Sacramento, Ca. 95823

Re: Central Valley Steelhead

Dear Mr. Bucaria:

Thank you for your letter of June 18, 2005 regarding the Department of Fish and Game's position regarding Central Valley Steelhead. I too, am very concerned about the condition of this species.

I have reviewed this material and discussed it with Director Brodrick. The Director and I are in agreement. The Central Valley Steelhead (anadromous form of *O. mykiss*) are clearly in trouble and we will continue to do everything we can to protect and restore this species. It has been and will continue to be high priority for the State of California.

I also concur with Director Brodrick's response to NOAA Fisheries regarding the proposal to list *O. mykiss*. When the resident, hatchery origin and migratory forms of this species are jointly considered, and because it is extremely difficult to distinguish between these differing types, listing *O. mykiss* is not warranted at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide clarity on this subject. Please let me know if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Chrisman  
Secretary for Resources

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

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

Mr. Brian Stranko  
Executive Director  
California Trout, Inc.  
870 Market Street, Suite 528  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mr. Craig Wingert  
NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Region  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4300  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4221

Department of Fish and Game  
Mr. L. Ryan Broddrick, Director  
Mr. Paul Stein, Chief Deputy Director  
Mr. Sonke Mastrup, Deputy Director, WIFD  
Mr. Banky Curtis, Deputy Director, HCD