

Table 1. Public Comments on Proposed Regulatory Changes and Department Responses for 2012 Sport Fishing Regulations Review Cycle

ISOR Number and Name	Name, Type(s), Date(s)	Public Comments	Department Recommendation	Department Response
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Charles Buccaria, N. Cal. Federation of Fly Fishermen, O 8/8/2012	Adopt a zero limit catch-and-release regulation when Smith river flows are below 400 cfs or when the river is closed above Rowdy Creek.	Comment noted with future consideration	The Department is submitting a regulation change proposal to raise the low flow trigger to 600 cfs. Smith River salmonid stocks are considered stable at this time and the Department continues to expand salmonid monitoring on the Smith River. Any further changes will be assessed when more data is available.
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Ted W. Souza, L 08/25/2012	Recommends closing the Smith River from the mouth upstream to the confluence of the middle and south forks during salmon season.	Do not Accept	Public Regulation change proposals to close the Smith River to Chinook salmon fishing in the past have not been accepted by DFG. DFG continues to support this position. There is not information that indicates that angler harvest of Chinook salmon is causing adverse impacts on Smith River Chinook salmon stocks.
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Brian Trautwein, Environmental Defense Center, L 08/02/2012; E 08/02/2012	Supports the Department's proposal to close the Sisquoc River to all angling to protect Southern CA steelhead	Comment noted.	Supports proposal.
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Brian Trautwein, Environmental Defense Center, E 08/06/2012; O 08/08/2012	Supports Department's proposal to close the Sisquoc River to all angling. Package includes 6 letters and 15 emails previously submitted for the Nov. 2011 FGC meeting concerning closure of the Sisquoc River.	Comment noted.	Supports proposal.
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Shawn Kelly, E 08/06/2012	Supports the Department's proposal to close the Sisquoc River to all angling to protect Southern CA steelhead	Comment Noted	Supports proposal.
SF 1: District and Special Regulations	Ed Harris, Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council, O 08/08/2012	Supports the Department's proposal to close the Sisquoc River to all angling to protect Southern CA steelhead	Comment Noted	Supports proposal.
SF 2: Sturgeon Sport Fishing	Joe Exline, O 8/8/2012	New regulations would make it impossible to catch white sturgeon in a San Diego lake. 1. Barbless hooks – sturgeon caught are mostly by-catch. Most people are fishing for trout and catfish and therefore are not using barbless hooks. 2. Not removing fish from the water – fishing is done primarily from the shoreline, so to remove the hook you have to remove the fish from the water. 3. Report Card fee - not the predominate place for sturgeon fishing.	Comment noted	Concern: 1. Barbless hooks – sturgeon caught are mostly by-catch. Most people are fishing for trout and catfish and therefore are not using barbless hooks. Response: The new proposed regulation would prohibit take and possession of sturgeon caught with a barbed hook, not the accidental bycatch by legal fishing activities including the handling of sturgeon to remove a hook. Concern: 2. No removing fish from the water – fishing is done primarily from the shoreline, so to remove the hook you have to remove the fish from the water. Response: An angler may manipulate the sturgeon in the water (e.g., roll over) for successful hook removal. Removal of the hook while the fish is in the water has been demonstrated numerous times in California and elsewhere. Concern: 3. Report Card fee - not the predominate place for sturgeon fishing. Response: The Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is only required for anglers targeting sturgeon. To properly manage the sturgeon fishery it is necessary to gather information to assess existing regulations and enforce bag limits. This information comes from the Sturgeon Fishing R

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SF 3: Black Bass Sport Fishing	Steve Carson, E 10/31/2012	Requests postponing the vote to remove the slot limit for black bass in Lake Oroville on November 7, 2012, and consider it at the Commission's December meeting because proper notice was not given to locally affected area.	Do not Accept	Review of notice mailing list shows Notice was sent to Butte County Board of Supervisors on July 27, 2012, and to the same address used for all other Notices for both the Board of Supervisors and the County Fish and Game Commission. All other Notices commenter states they received were sent to the same address. This Notice has not been returned by the post office. Notice was also sent to other local bass organizations and media outlets. Postponement of one item could affect the timing of the other sport fishing items. It was advised that comments may still be accepted up to the adoption hearing on November 7, 2012, if there are direct concerns about any of the proposal.
SF 6: Inland Spearfishing	Bill Bernard, O 8/08/2012	Supports proposal Option B to allow spearfishing for striped bass in selected waters of the Central Valley District.	Comment Noted	Support for Option B noted.
SF 6: Inland Spearfishing	William Boldt, L 09/05/2012	Supports proposal Option B to allow spearfishing for striped bass in selected waters of the Central Valley District.	Comment Noted	Support for Option B noted.