

Economic Impact Analysis

Section 7.50(b), Title 14, California Code of Regulations Inland Sport Fishing

Creation or Elimination of Jobs, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California

The Department does not anticipate any substantial impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new business, the elimination of existing businesses, or the expansion of businesses in California, that provide services to inland sport fishermen from the proposed regulations. The proposed changes in subsections 7.50(b)(5), (b)(68), and (b)(156.5) affect the bag and possession limits for Chinook salmon in the American, Feather, and Sacramento rivers. These minor variations in the bag and possession limits as may be established in the regulations are, by themselves, unlikely to stimulate the creation of new businesses or cause the elimination of existing businesses. The number of fishing trips and the economic contributions from them are expected to remain more or less the same.

Benefits of the Regulation

As set forth in Section 1700, Fish and Game Code, it is “the policy of the state to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of the living resources of the ocean and other waters under the jurisdiction and influence of the state for the benefit of all the citizens of the state and to promote the development of local fisheries and distant-water fisheries based in California in harmony with international law respecting fishing and the conservation of the living resources of the oceans and other waters under the jurisdiction and influence of the state.”

In accordance with this policy, adoption of scientifically-based inland salmon seasons, size limits, and bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of trout and salmon to ensure their continued existence.

Health and Welfare of California Residents

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. Salmon is a nutritious food source and providing inland sport fishery opportunities encourages consumption of this nutritious food. Sport fishing also contributes to increased mental health of its practitioners as fishing is a hobby and form of relaxation for many. Sport fishing also provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California’s environment by younger generations, the future stewards of California’s natural resources.

Benefits to Worker Safety

The Department does not anticipate any benefits to worker safety from the proposed regulations because inland sport fishing does not impact worker conditions.