

March 8, 2002

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Mike Grimma  
Regional Patrol Chief  
CA Dept. Fish & Game, Region 2  
1701 Nimbus Road  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Sir,

I am an active member of Granite Bay Flycasters. We are a fly fishing organization with approximately 300 members.

Hopefully, you will recall our telephone conversation last fall regarding the Feather River between the Table Mountain bicycle bridge downstream to the Highway 70 Bridge and the specific CCR section as follows:

(68) Feather River below Oroville Dam (Butte, Sutter and Yuba Cos.),

(A) Fish barrier Dam to Table Mountain bicycle bridge in Oroville

Closed to fishing all year

(B) Table Mountain bicycle bridge to Highway 70 bridge

Jan. 1 through Aug. 30

1 hatchery trout or 1 hatchery steelhead\*\*  
0 salmon

After our conversation it is my understanding that this is a "catch and release" area for salmon from Jan. 1 through Aug. 30 and your interpretation of this regulation does **not** create a resource issue for the proper management of this fishery.

Unfortunately, with the misinformation many anglers have received from local wardens regarding the catch and release of salmon, a large percentage of the fishing public are afraid to access this legitimate fishery. They believe that they will be targeted unfairly if they fish this area.

Quite frankly this has created a public relations problem for the California Department of Fish and Game. There is not a fishing store in the area that has not had anglers express their frustration regarding this issue.

I am not attempting to point a finger at anyone by this letter, but I hope you would be willing to provide a written response and permission to reprint it in our club newsletter and web site that defines the above regulation for the public.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. If you have any alternative suggestions please let me know.

Respectfully,

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Gary W. Flanagan