

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: June 2, 2008
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 1262
AUTHOR: D. Cogdill

BILL SUMMARY: Sport Fishing: Fish Hatcheries

Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to restore native trout to their original waters, and prohibits the use of coastal rainbow trout/steelhead for this purpose. This bill would clarify that fish produced in mitigation hatcheries may not be used to meet restoration requirements, and that coastal rainbow trout/steelhead may be used to meet restoration goals under specified circumstances.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would have no fiscal impact on the DFG.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Amendments to this bill since our analysis of the March 24, 2008 version are minor and do not alter our position. The bill would now clarify that surplus hatchery fish could be used to meet the 25 percent requirement if the DFG determines they will not have a negative impact on the native fish in the location they are planted.

COMMENTS

This bill would have no fiscal impact and concerns a policy matter on which we are neutral.

Existing law requires that 25 percent of the fish produced by state hatcheries be used to initiate and manage the restoration of native trout in their original watersheds by July 1, 2011, and also calls for interim goals of 15 percent by July 1, 2009 and 20 percent by July 1, 2010. The DFG is also prohibited from using coastal rainbow trout/steelhead to meet these goals.

This bill would clarify that fish produced in mitigation hatcheries to replace natural production lost due to habitat degradation may not be used to meet the 25 percent restoration goal, and that coastal rainbow trout/steelhead may be used to meet the goal if they are indigenous to the watershed where they are to be distributed. However, surplus hatchery fish could be used to meet the 25 percent requirement if the DFG determines they will not have a negative impact on the native fish in the location they are planted.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO LA CO RV	PROP 98	FC	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)			Fund Code
				2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	
3600/Dept FishGam	SO	No		No/Minor Fiscal Impact			3103
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>						
3103	Hatchery and Inland Fisheries Fund						

Analyst/Principal (0634) M. Almy	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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