



Dear State Board Members,

As an angler and resident of California I am writing to ask that you adopt an unimpaired springtime flow rate for the San Joaquin River of 60 percent. By adopting this policy, salmon populations will be able to recover and are expected to double in population within these waters.

With the current flows, this historic salmon fishery, which once numbered in the hundreds of thousands, has dwindled to 78,000 salmon that return each year to spawn.

Fishery scientists at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bay Institute agree that the current flow rates are much too low to restore salmon and that salmon are unlikely to recover at the 35 percent flow levels shown in the State Water Resources Control Board's draft report.

But, as noted in the report, California can have both healthy water flows and a healthy agricultural economy. A stronger flow rate for the river would also increase and strengthen the economic impacts that anglers, boaters, marinas and hotels already have on the region's economy.

Again I respectfully request that you adopt a 60 percent unimpaired springtime flow rate for the San Joaquin River which will fortify both the health of the salmon and the region's economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

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