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TO: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

RE: Letter of Support to California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding proposed changes in fishing regulations.

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors is in support of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposals to change the following fishing regulations:

1) Lassen and Modoc counties Black Bass Size Restriction

Change: Remove the minimum size requirement from all waters within Lassen and Modoc counties, with the exception of Mountain Meadows Reservoir in Lassen County, where the minimum size would remain 12 inches.

2) Susan River, Lassen County

Change: Revert the season to historic traditional trout opener (Last Saturday in April through Nov. 15). Update language to include special open season for youths participating in Youth Fishing Derby (the Saturday preceding the last Saturday of April).

Bass in most reservoirs within the county appear to have slow growth rates and stunted bass populations that seldomly attain the minimum 12-inch size limit. Having no size limit could increase harvest of smaller bass and can increase overall bass size within the reservoirs overtime. This change will give anglers more opportunities to harvest bass where increased harvest is needed.

Reverting the season in the Susan River to the traditional trout season will increase angler opportunity by lengthening the season in the spring and shortening the winter season. During much of the winter the river is typically unfishable (due to snow and/or ice), so the winter provides little opportunity. In addition, water in the Susan River can warm quickly in the late spring and early summer. Having the season open earlier will provide more opportunities to fish during better conditions.

Please direct any questions to the Lassen County Fish and Game Commission.

Sincerely,

Tom Neely, Chairman
Lassen County Board of Supervisors