

California Advisory Committee
on Salmon and
Steelhead Trout



January 9, 2020
Charlton H. Bonham, Director
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
1416 Ninth St., 12th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

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<http://fisheries.legislature.ca.gov/content/related-statutes-and-committees>

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Dear Director Bonham:

The California Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout (CAC) held two recent meetings, in July and October 2019, with a focus on the Department's Coastal Monitoring Program (CMP). The purpose of those meetings was for the CAC to assist federal and state fisheries agencies - the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) - to identify statewide salmonid monitoring program priorities for which adequate and reliable funding is needed. These monitoring programs are vital to help restoration programs and practitioners prioritize where to invest in salmonid recovery, as well as to assess the outcome of that investment.

The CAC wishes to thank Department staff for their successful collaboration in this effort. We now have identified 31 monitoring programs which fisheries agencies support as priority programs.

During the course of our meetings, Department staff agreed to several CMP program outcomes, which the CAC wholly supports, including:

- Reconvene the NMFS and CDFW CMP Leadership, Management, and Technical teams to collaborate on further development of a "California Monitoring Program" (CaMP)
- Establish regional working groups to refine the current list of CMP Priorities
- Estimate individual and cumulative program and administrative costs for a statewide CMP
- Evaluate when and how to update Fish Bulletin 180 to allow the CMP program more flexibility and adaptivity in the future.

The CAC will consider forming a Subcommittee to be available to coordinate, assist, or communicate with Department staff regarding these outcomes.

We thank you again for your program staff's continued efforts to re-establishing a robust California Monitoring Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DM', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Darren Mierau
Chair, CACSST

CC: Jonathan Nelson
Tom Weseloh