

# California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

**“Conserving California’s Fisheries & Aquatic Habitat”**

1360 Neilson St. / Berkeley / CA / 94702 / 510.526.4049

June 17, 2009

Dear Representative & Member of the California Congressional Delegation:

We just received word that Congressman Nunes obtained an amendment to HR 2847 that will place runs of California’s Central Valley salmon and steelhead in grave jeopardy of extinction. HR2847 will be up for a roll call vote on the House floor tomorrow, June 18<sup>th</sup>. On behalf of the over 2 million anglers who reside in California, we urge you to vote to remove the Nune’s Rider (#63) from the bill.

Our once magnificent winter-run Chinook salmon and steelhead fisheries that require “protection” under the Endangered Species Act will be on the chopping block should HR 2847 be passed with the rider in tact. This amendment will stop the National Marine Fishery Service from funding the implementation of the court mandated biological opinion that will reduce the impacts of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project to prevent these fisheries from being in jeopardy of extinction.

This biological opinion is the result of several years of consultation with state and federal agencies, It underwent two separate peer reviews, to ensure it is based on sound science and is consistent with the federal district court’s 2008 decision and orders. This court found that current operations were jeopardizing the species, necessitating the reasonable operational changes required by the biological opinion.

The California Sportfishing Protection Alliance has worked to conserve our state’s once abundant fishery resources for the past twenty-five years due to the benefits they provide to the public and our economy. California’s fisheries contribute over \$8 billion dollars to the state’s economy annually and support many thousands of jobs for our citizens. We urge you to help continue our natural resource heritage of salmon and steelhead by opposing this unnecessary and contentious amendment.

Sincerely,

John Beuttler  
Conservation Director