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NOAA'S National Marine Fisheries Service to host workshops on recovery planning for Central Valley salmon and steelhead

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) will hold two public workshops in Sacramento on July 20, 2006 to discuss the development of recovery plans for Central Valley salmon and steelhead listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Additional meetings will be scheduled for later in the year.

The workshops will provide two opportunities for the public to learn about the federal recovery planning process for salmon and steelhead in California's Central Valley and provide feedback to NOAA Fisheries Service concerning threats to the species or their habitats.

The format of each workshop will include a brief overview by NOAA Fisheries Service on recovery planning followed by attendees organizing into small groups for facilitated discussions. A summary of the workshop proceedings will be made available to the public at a later date.

Development of a recovery plan is important for the successful rebuilding of fish populations identified as being at risk of extinction. Local knowledge from the public on threats or unique needs of these fish is extremely valuable to ensure the plan is comprehensive and includes stakeholder involvement and input.

The workshops will be held at the Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane in Sacramento. The afternoon session will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the evening session from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Workshop attendance is free, but registration is required due to space limitations. On-line registration is available at <http://www.abag.ca.gov/abag/salmon/recoveryworkshops>. For those without internet access, or for more information, please call 562.980.4006.

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On the web:

NOAA: <http://www.noaa.gov>

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov>

Recovery Planning Information: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/recovery>

Radisson Hotel/Sacramento: <http://www.radissonsac.com/>

On-Line Registration: <http://www.abag.ca.gov/abag/salmon/recoveryworkshops>