**2016 Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting, Pacific Grove, CA**

**POSTER ABSTRACT:**

**Implementation of the Central Valley Steelhead Monitoring Program**

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**Abstract:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is implementing the Central Valley Steelhead Monitoring Program (CVSMP) pilot study to monitor Central Valley (CV) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in the Sacramento River watershed. The long-term goal of the CVSMP is to provide recommendations for the development of steelhead monitoring programs that will provide the data necessary to help assess progress towards restoration and recovery goals in the CV. These actions are expected to result in Sacramento River Basin-wide estimates of adult wild and hatchery steelhead population abundance, steelhead abundance estimates for select rivers, and spatial distribution of steelhead in the CV. The CVSMP includes a Mainstem Sacramento River Steelhead Mark-Recapture Program, an Upper Sacramento River Tributary Escapement Monitoring Program, and a Sacramento River Tributary Mark-Recapture Monitoring Program. These programs began implementation July 2015 under contract with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) and will continue through March 2017. The Mainstem Sacramento River Mark-Recapture Program is operating seven large wire fyke traps in the Sacramento River between American River confluence downstream to the town of Clarksburg. The Upper Sacramento River Tributary Escapement Program is operating resistance board weirs with video and DIDSON/ ARIS monitoring stations on Clear and Bear creeks and plan to enhance monitoring in Mill, Deer, and Antelope creeks in 2016. The Sacramento River Tributary Mark-Recapture Program will install PIT tag antenna arrays in Clear Creek followed by Bear, Mill, Deer, and Antelope Creeks in 2016. Hatchery broodstock and angler harvest recapture data are also being collected using marked fish captured in the mainstem fyke traps. The objective of the CVSMP pilot study is to evaluate the efficacy and success of these monitoring programs in order to expand these techniques throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin watersheds.