

SILVERWOOD LAKE FISH STOCKING MEASURE

PROPOSED CONDITION

Beginning in the first full calendar year after license issuance and annually thereafter during the stocking season (October 1 to May 30), the Licensee will stock Silverwood Lake with a target of 20,000 pounds of catchable trout (i.e., approximately two fish per pound). This poundage is an average annual target that may fluctuate slightly from year to year. The average will be measured as a five-year running average to ensure consistent stocking over the term of the new license. The Licensee, after consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), will stock the fish at an appropriate time of the year, which is anticipated to typically be at least two events per month between October 1 and May 30 of each year. The fish stocking events will occur between the Cleghorn Boat Launch or the Sawpit Canyon Boat Launch. The Licensee may contract with CDFW or one or more State-registered private fish hatcheries to raise and plant the fish.

Beginning in the first full calendar year after license issuance and once every six years thereafter, the Licensee will conduct an angler survey at Silverwood Lake. The Licensee may contract with CDFW to perform the surveys. The surveys will focus on trout, the stocked species, with an option to survey for other fish. The surveys will be performed approximately eight-ten days during each month from October 1 (or after the first stocking event, which ever is later) through May 30 (or no later than 10 days after the last seasonal stocking event), for a total of 64-80 survey days. The specific days to be surveyed in each month will be randomly selected by the Licensee, with five days in each month in two strata: (1) a high-use stratum (i.e., Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays); and (2) a low-use stratum (i.e., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays). The time that the survey begins each day will be randomly selected between a morning start and an afternoon start, but all surveys will be performed in the daylight. The daily survey location will be the shoreline from Cleghorn Day Use Area to Sawpit Day Use Area, including the Sawpit boat launch. The duration of each survey day will be four hours.

The surveyor(s) will ask anglers a standard series of questions regarding trout. The surveyor(s) will ask the anglers questions to determine angling effort (i.e., hours fished per angler that day) and target fish (i.e., were the anglers fishing for trout or some other fish species). The surveyor(s) will also ask the anglers one to four standard “yes or no” questions, along with the number of trout caught, to determine their angling satisfaction for trout. The first standard question will be: “Were you satisfied with your angling experience for trout today?” The second standard question will be: “How many trout did you catch today?”

Two additional questions will be asked if the angler reports catching one or more trout: “Were you satisfied with the number of trout caught?” and “Were you satisfied with the size of trout caught?” If the anglers caught trout, the surveyor(s) will then ask questions about catch rate (i.e., the number of trout caught, including trout kept and released and why, by length of time fished), size (in inches) of trout caught, and gear used to fish.

The Licensee may add other questions at their discretion (e.g., questions related to other fish species sought, where the anglers fished in the reservoir, number of anglers in their party; how often the anglers fish at Silverwood Lake; timing and duration of fishing trips; if the anglers are camping at Silverwood Lake or are just there for the day; and the distance the angler traveled to the lake).

By December 31, in the third full calendar years after license issuance and every other year thereafter (i.e., in License years 5, 7, 9, 11, etc.), the Licensee will file with the Commission a report documenting Silverwood Lake trout stocking in the previous October to May stocking season and any Licensee-conducted angler surveys in those calendar years. For each of the previous two calendar years, the report will include for stocked trout: the poundage and approximate number of trout stocked; strain; size class; dates stocked; release location; method of stocking (e.g., truck); and the hatchery of origin if the fish were not obtained from CDFW. The report will also document compliance with the five-year running average stocking requirement indicated under this condition. The report will include a running summary by year of the Licensee's Silverwood Lake trout stocking (i.e., poundage of trout stocked each stocking season and the five-year running average). If the Licensee performed an angler survey in one of the two previous calendar stocking season, the report will include the results of the survey, including: when and where surveys were conducted; number of anglers surveyed; total hours fished; total number of trout caught and kept; total number of trout caught and released; catch rate (i.e., number of trout caught by hours fished); length-frequency of caught trout; angler satisfaction results (i.e., response to the standard questions described above); and other information as appropriate. In addition, if an angler survey was performed in one of the two previous stocking seasons, the report will include a comparison of that season's angler survey results to other trout angler surveys performed by the Licensee under this condition.

In years in which the report includes angler survey results for the previous two calendar years, prior to filing the report with FERC, the Licensee will provide a draft of the report to CDFW and consult with CDFW regarding the fish stocking program. CDFW will have 30 calendar days to provide written comments on the draft report, including recommending any changes to the fish stocking program. The Licensee will include all relevant documentation of consultation with CDFW in the final report filed with FERC. If the Licensee does not adopt a particular written recommendation by CDFW, the final report will include the Licensee's reasoning for the decision.