

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 79-49

ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL REPORT: "EXAMINATION OF
SELECTED FRESHWATER FISH SPECIES FOR USE IN STANDARDIZED
REGULATORY ACUTE TOXICITY BIOASSAYS", PREPARED BY THE
CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME (INTERAGENCY
AGREEMENT NO. 3-2-77)

WHEREAS:

1. On May 16, 1974, the State Board authorized funding of the toxicity bioassay study for \$85,000 to be conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game;
2. The primary purpose of the project was to evaluate the practicability of selecting and using one fish species in the State in a "standardized" toxicity bioassay;
3. Experimental results and a ranking of test species by criteria of their availability, quality, and current use led to the conclusions that (a) rainbow trout are best suited for the testing of wastes discharged to salmonid waters; and (b) fathead minnows or golden shiner are best suited for testing wastes discharged to nonsalmonid waters.
4. In addition, the Department recommends that:
 - a. A test fish quality control program should be established to certify the acceptability of fish stocks for use as standardized test species. The program should be assigned to the Department of Fish and Game as part of its Bioassay Laboratory Certification Program conducted at the Water Pollution Control Laboratory;
 - b. Sources of test fish should be located in several strategic areas in the State to better serve testing laboratories; and
 - c. The Department provide test fish if commercial costs become unreasonable. Presently, 68 certified laboratories conduct NPDES bioassays for over 240 waste dischargers in the State.
5. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing standardized bioassay guidelines, which have not been promulgated.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The State Board accepts the final report, "Examination of Selected Freshwater Fish Species for Use in Standardized Regulatory Acute Toxicity Bioassays".

2. The State Board directs the Executive Director to develop a strategy for implementing the project results and recommendations that are appropriate to the State and Regional Boards' toxicity testing program.
3. The State Board prepare a proposal to EPA to use the results of this project in standardized bioassay guidelines that EPA develops for California.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on May 17, 1979.


Larry F. Walker
Executive Director