State Proposes Costly & Onerous Regulations for Common Fishing Gear and Sinkers!

The California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) has announced that it intends to write regulations for, and potentially ban, **common fishing sinkers and lures**.

DTSC's plan will have a profound impact on the fishing community, employers and communities dependent on outdoor recreation and tourism. In response, the **California Sportfishing League (CSL)** has launched a major campaign to have fishing gear delisted from the Draft Work Plan.

What Is Proposed?

The Department's proposal is the first release the Green Chemistry Initiative, and identifies fishing sinkers and gear that contain metals such as lead, zinc and copper. **The new regulations could ban the manufacturing, distribution and sale of popular fishing gear.**

How Will Regulations Impact Manufacturers, Sellers and Retailers?

The proposed regulations will increase the likelihood that manufacturers, sellers and retailers of fishing weights and gear will be subjected to costly and onerous regulations, and potential fines. The result could be a wide range of enforcement options requiring restrictions or bans on sale, product reformulation, additional environmental impact studies, development of disposal programs or funding for fundamental research and development. The bottom line is that the cost of manufacturing fishing gear will increase significantly and these costs will be passed on to consumers.

What Is the Impact on Anglers (Consumers)?

Non-lead fishing tackle products require significant and costly changes for the industry. Depending on the alternative metal and current prevailing raw material costs, **the cost of fishing gear could increase 10 to 20 fold**. What's more, higher consumer costs will accelerate the decline in outdoor recreation and fishing, and economic activity.

How Can I Help?

1. Join our coalition!
2. Offer public testimony at the scheduled workshops!
3. Submit written testimony!
4. Sign our "Stop Fishing Gear Ban" petition!

www.SportfishingConservation.org and www.facebook.com/CASportfishingLeague