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**Bleak Future for Central Valley Wild Salmon**

In a recently published paper by Sierra Franks and Robert Lackey of Oregon State University, most surveyed fisheries experts concluded that by 2100 wild salmon in the California Central Valley will be extirpated or minimally abundant if current trends continue. The experts provided their candid assessments with a promise of complete and permanent anonymity. Despite restoration efforts spanning decades and involving large expenditures, runs of wild salmon in the Central Valley continue to decline. The causes of the decline are many and have been well studied. Given the most probable policy and ecological scenarios (*i.e.* effects of continued harvest, continued stocking from hatcheries, changing climate, continued human population growth and associated demands for scarce water resources) and based on expert judgment by fisheries experts, Franks and Lackey projected the most likely future of wild salmon runs in the Central Valley in 2100 and it is not promising. The paper was published in the current issue of [San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science](http://escholarship.org/uc/item/3vt5z15p) and is available for free download.

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Web Link: <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/3vt5z15p>

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