COLORADO FISH HEALTH BOARD

6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Via email to: dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us

August 19, 2025

Dear Commissioners:

The Colorado Fish Health Board is a statutory body charged with reviewing, prior to presentation to the Commission, "every rule which is to regulate or control, or otherwise relates to, fish health, the spread of aquatic disease within private aquaculture facilities or cultured aquatic stock, or the importation into the state or the distribution of any exotic aquatic species." § 33-5.5-102(1), C.R.S. The five members of the Board include two private aquaculturists, an employee of the Colorado Department of Agriculture, an employee of the Division of Parks and Wildlife, and an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Board has reviewed the citizen petition and proposed rule to prohibit the importation of aquatic wildlife for sale or use as bait submitted on March 4, 2025, as well as the Division of Parks and Wildlife's August 7, 2025, recommendation to deny the petition. The Board opposes the proposed rule and unanimously supports the Division's position for the reasons explained in the Division's recommendation.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Liley

Jeremy Liley, Chair
Colorado Fish Health Board
jeremy@lileyfisheries.com
970-381-2490