

Received

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MR KNELL

Oakdale ID

I JUST FINISHED READING YOU AND MR SHIELDS ARTICLE IN THE MODESTO BEE I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE MY EXPERIENCE FISHING THE DELTA MANDOTA AND CA. AQUEDUCT CANALS I'M 72 I STARTED FISHING MANDOTA AS A TEENAGER IN THE BEGINNING YOU COULD CATCH DIFFERENT KINDS OF CATFISH. IN THE LAST FEW YEARS I CATCH ONLY CHANNEL CATFISH IN THIS SAME TIME THERE HAS BEEN AN EXPLOSION OF STRIPED BASS IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO THROW YOUR LINE IN WATER ANYPLACE IN THESE CANALS AND NOT GET A STRIPER BITE WHILE IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO CATCH THE REMAINING CHANNEL CATS. WHAT'S EVEN MORE ALARMING IS I'VE ONLY CAUGHT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS ONLY ONE SMALL CHANNEL CAT. MOST ARE IN FIVE TO SEVEN POUND RANGE. THERE ARE SO MANY STRIPES IN

THESE WATERS I DON'T KNOW HOW
THEY HAVE ROOM TO SWIM.
AND WITHOUT A DOUBT THEY HAVE
DESTROYED THE CAT FISHING IN BOTH
CANNALS IF SOMETHING IS NOT DONE
NOW TO LOWER THE SIZE LIMIT TO
12 INCHES AND POSSESSION LIMIT TO FIVE
OR SIX IN BOTH OF THESE CANNALS
AT THE VERY LEAST. THE CAT FISHING
WILL BE LOST IN FACT IT MIGHT
ALREADY BE TOO LATE.
THIS IS REAL AND IT'S HAPPENING NOW
I HOPE THE POWERS THAT BE WILL HAVE
THE COMMON SENSE AND TRY AND FIX THIS
I FEAR IT MIGHT ALREADY BE TOO LATE
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK BOTH OF YOU
FOR YOUR CONCERN AND EFFORTS

Jerry Rife