

of the work of providing the future fishing for the ever-increasing hordes of fishermen as possible, and we feel that hatchery fish should go in the streams in which there are not existing adequate populations of wild fish that can take care of themselves under reasonable regulations.

Mr. JOHNSON. Well, that is argued both ways, and we have a very large hatchery program, as you know. I belong myself to Gammuts Unlimited trying to bring gammuts around and the same with steelhead trout. We are doing a pretty good job with our hatcheries out there, both Federal and State. I just want to get the answer whether you would restrict placing the fish in any of these rivers.

Mr. BOVEY. Congressman Johnson, I would just like to say by way of approval of what is being done in California that Trout Unlimited a year ago this past September gave its award for the professional who had done the most for trout fishing during the year in our opinion to Alex Calhoun, chief of fisheries of your State department.

Mr. JOHNSON. I know it, but you still have not answered the question. I am asking if you would absolutely ban the placing of hatchery fish in any of the rivers of the scenic river system.

Mr. BOVEY. Most certainly not.

Mr. JOHNSON. All right.

Mr. BOVEY. If the fishing authorities of the State felt that the waters should be stocked, needed stocking.

Mr. TAYLOR. I would say there is nothing more compatible with a scenic river than fish.

Mr. BOVEY. Right, sir. We are, however, primarily interested, as I hope I made clear, in catching wild trout rather than chasing hatchery trucks. We think it is a superior brand of fishing. We are infinitely less concerned about hatchery fish in marginal rivers than we are about quality fishing for wild trout, because so long as the American license buyers are willing to pay to run the hatcheries and the hatchery trucks, so long as we have water that is something a little less lethal than pure acid, something in which a trout can live for a few days or a few weeks, we can have this so-called put-and-take fishing. But to a real fisherman there is all the difference in the world, as I am sure you are fully aware, between that type of fishing and the type of fishing that Trout Unlimited means when they talk about quality fishing.

Mr. JOHNSON. That is quite true. We realize that. We have many fine streams where reproduction is very good by nature, and we have had tests run there by the university for a number of years on the heaviest fish stream. At the end of the fishing season there is still an adequate supply of fish in some of these streams but in other areas they are pretty well fished out.

Mr. BOVEY. Right.

Mr. JOHNSON. And the hatchery fish train a lot of fishermen, a lot of youngsters coming along.

Mr. BOVEY. Please do not misunderstand me. We are not opposed to hatchery fish used in waters that will not support a truly adequate population of wild fish.

Mr. JOHNSON. Now another matter that you referred to here is the Middle Fork and the Feather. Several States in the Union have approved this program and have utilized the funds from the water and