



February 6, 2010

NATIONAL BRIEFING | WEST

California: Limits on Pumping Are Lifted

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A federal judge on Friday temporarily lifted pumping limits designed to protect endangered wild salmon in order to speed more irrigation water to California's drought-parched fields. Some of the country's largest farms had pressed for the protections in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to be suspended because the persistent drought has caused job losses and other economic woes. West Coast fishermen argued that the limits were necessary to save their dwindling catch. Judge Oliver W. Wanger of Federal District Court granted farmers' request for a temporary restraining order, lifting the pumping restrictions for two weeks. Environmentalists warned that would heighten the risk that fish were ground up in the pumps.

[Copyright 2010 The New York Times Company](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Search](#) | [Corrections](#) | [RSS](#) | [First Look](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Work for Us](#) | [Site Map](#) |