



# California Fish and Game Wardens' Association

The Thin Green Line

## **California Fish & Game Wardens Association Endorse Jerry Brown For Governor**

Fish and Game Wardens, who protect California's fisheries, wildlife, and ocean resources, endorse Jerry Brown for Governor. While Jerry Brown was Governor of California, he spearheaded an effort in the support of fisheries and wildlife law enforcement by instituting an increase of 50 new Game Wardens to the small staff in the late 1970's; a single increase unequalled by any previous Governor the past 100 years.

The former Governor has proven during his political career that he has a concern and passion in supporting Game Wardens in their fight against poachers and polluters.

"The time is right for Jerry Brown to be Governor. We know Brown is committed to providing Californians with appropriate natural resources protection" said Jerry Karnow, Jr., President of the California Fish & Game Wardens' Association (CFGWA). "The number of Wardens in the field protecting the state's natural resources has been reduced significantly in the last two Administrations. California now maintains the same number of officers on patrol as 60 years ago, about 200, even though the state's population has increased to 38 million people. California currently has the lowest ratio of wardens to population of any State or Canadian Province in North America; only one officer for about every 190,000 citizens. In fact, California currently ranks dead last in the nation in terms of environmental protection and enforcement staffing." The lack of Wardens has had a direct negative impact on public safety, our natural resources, fish and wildlife, our water quality, and our ability to respond to public safety & natural disasters. Illegal black-market commercialization and poaching of all wildlife is rampant. Salmon, abalone, steelhead and sturgeon populations have declined to unprecedented levels- literally to collapse. Pollution spills go unchecked. The shortage of wardens has led to the degradation of fisheries, water, wildlife, and less opportunity to protect human life. Wardens are the front line defense for all natural resources that belong to all Californians.

"We need a Governor who will rejuvenate law enforcement and proper wildlife management. Jerry Brown is a conservationist. He has spent time on a family ranch. He has been in the field enjoying our wild places. Through experience he simply understands sustainability of natural resources," stated Karnow.

Jerry Brown has recommitted his support to California's wildlife officers in recent open comments to the media and to Game Wardens themselves.

In light of the sobering task to try and reverse the decline of the states fisheries, wildlife and environment, the CFGWA can only support the established and true leader. Jerry Brown's record speaks volumes. The California Fish & Game Wardens Association speaks for itself and is proud to endorse Jerry Brown for Governor. Game Wardens began protecting California through enforcement since 1871, making them the oldest uniformed law enforcement officers in our state.

**[www.californiafishandgamewardens.com](http://www.californiafishandgamewardens.com)**

***Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1871***