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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The second annual **Crowley Lake Challenge** kicks off April 26 on Crowley Lake and runs until June 29. This fishing event is a fun way for anglers and biologists to join forces in support of the lake's trout population. The event is open to anglers of all skill levels with \$5,000 in prizes to be awarded, including "**Referral**" prizes for those anglers who sign up their friends, as well as "**Early Bird**" prizes for folks who sign up early (see rules for details).

"What makes these events unique is how we combine the fun of fishing for prizes with the ability to collect high quality data on the trout fishery," says Sean Simmons, founder and president of **MyCatch**. "By having the anglers actively engaged and leading the data collection, it demonstrates how the angling community can play a meaningful role in the management and conservation of the resource."

This event uses the mobile app **MyCatch** where anglers report their catches to qualify for prizes. There is no entry fee to participate in this event. This event is held in cooperation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as a way to conduct a census of the fish population and measure harvest levels in the lake.

Crowley Fish Foundation, a partner in this event, encourages all anglers to sign up and utilize the app to help California Department of Fish and Wildlife collect data. The mission of the foundation is to keep Crowley Lake and its tributares as a world-class fishing destination and to preserve them for future generations.

"It is important that anglers report all fish they catch in order for biologists to properly understand the population structure," says Simmons. "That's why we offer a range of prize categories that reward reporting all fish, such as 'Most Fish Caught' and 'Most Fish Released' prize categories." Along with the possibility of earning prizes, you are doing your part as a citizen scientist to report critical data. We are also offering a "Release Video" prize, as a way to reward catch and release anglers. Of course everyone wants to know who catches the "Longest Fish" and so there are prizes for that category too.

Check out last year's events at <u>AnglersAtlas.com/event/785</u> to see who placed first in each of these categories.

"Secret spots stay secret," adds Simmons, "We never share exact locations with the public."

Anglers can sign up for the event by scanning the QR code below. For further details, please contact Sean Simmons at sean@anglersatlas.com, or visit the web page.

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