# PETITION

## CONNETQUOT STATE PARK PRESERVE TROUT HATCHERY

WHEREAS: The historic Connetquot River State Park Preserve trout hatchery has been closed since January 1, 2009 because of the discovery of the viral disease IPN *(Infection Pancreatic Necrosis)* which affects only juvenile trout and causes no harm to humans and,

New York State Parks and the Department of Environmental Conservation have been aware of this problem since early 2007 and have taken little if any positive action since that time.

Since closing the hatchery, park attendance has plummeted, revenues from fisherman have evaporated, the handicapped no longer have effective fishing access, and the facility's educational programs have been severely curtailed.

THEREFORE: the undersigned ask that Governor Patterson immediately direct New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic preservation to:

1) Immediately allocate all of the funds required to adequately study the IPN problem including all environmental, recreational, educational, historical and economic considerations and

2) upon completion of such studies take any and all the steps necessary and available including possibly limited operations as part of the study process, to open the hatchery as soon as practical.

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