

From: St.John.Matt@Waterboards
To: Burke.James@Waterboards
Subject: FW: questions fo WQ
Date: Thursday, April 4, 2019 11:08:10 AM

Public comment on Elk WDR.

From: Stephanie Bennett <chamillyb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:26 PM
To: St.John, Matt@Waterboards <Matt.St.John@waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: questions fo WQ

Hi Matt:

please share this with your Board, your staff, & anyone else who thinks they understand Elk River but doesn't live here.

Some Elk River community members who were at the presentation by Darren & Bonnie were questioning me about it. In fact, they were shocked to hear from both presenters that:

"the Basin Plan Objectives cannot be met" by this proposed plan.

So what's the point?

Why is the polluter not stopped from ongoing & continuing pollution since there is no adequate recovery & repair plan? (i.e. a moratorium on logging)

Evidently a bunch of consultants & contractors will benefit while this river morphs into a waste ditch as we old residents just die off.

I recently learned that these BPOs are actually revised to be weaker for the benefit of the feeble polluter. Great idea! Let's lower environmental protection standards for everyone to generate bigger profits & to hell with future generations.

It's rather sad to live in the 5th largest economy in the World, yet there just doesn't seem to be enough funding in California to protect the citizens & the natural resources from rapacious polluters. It's also sad that we in Elk River formerly believed that WQ's mission was to protect our watershed. Decades of dealing with your sick & twisted Board (cardboard cutouts all of them--it's irrelevant who they are for their only power is to execute political maneuvers) has confirmed that we cannot & will not respect or rely on WQ to do what's right.

Questions

#1: What is the budget for this proposed Recovery?

--Salt River cost was \$7.2 million for 1.5 miles....Elk River has 18 miles. Seems like the budget would be close to \$75,000,000 - \$100,000,000 ?? Explain.

#2. What are the funding sources of this budget? All public, right?

#3 How much \$\$ is the polluter contributing to this Recovery Plan necessitated by its pollution?

--what portion of this Recovery Plan did the Polluter agree to?

--if it hadn't polluted for the past 30 years no Recovery Plan would be needed so to be

just & fair, it--the timber industry--should pay to clean up its mess
--is there a contingency bond from the polluter? nah...let the damaged peons exhaust their finances suing the timber industry, as your own attorneys keep advising us to do so they don't have to. Really...does this sound like "environmental justice?"

#4 How much \$\$ is allocated in this secret budget to repairing residential homes & properties?

--our home needs to be raised immediately due to the timber industry's rapacious & unregulated bad behaviors, but WQ hasn't provided the funds nor has our polluting timber neighbor

--Flood insurance now costs over \$4,000/year when 15 years ago it was less than \$400. A ten-fold increase caused entirely by our neighbor operating under WQ's guidance. (A total failure for the public trustee if success means protecting resources)

--WQ knows this & evidently endorses the destruction of our private property & our lives because we have no power. Otherwise WQ would exercise its civil liabilities authority to abate this injustice.

#5 What is the status of the South Fork water supplies?? We've been told for years that "WQ is working on it" or that "it's a ministerial glitch in the order".

How sick is that to let people go for decades with unsanitary water because you all can't reconcile your glitches?? Allocate some of the Recovery Plan budget for that, OK?

Why isn't WQ addressing this serious health & safety need caused by WQ's policies? Does WQ assert that North Fork residents are entitled to good water but not South Fork ones? Is this because Jesse lives on the South Fork & WQ hopes he will get sick & die? He already got assaulted & brutally battered by a young man who agrees w/WQ that he's a nuisance & this assailant also claimed that he was an invitee of HRC.. So if you can't strangle us to death then you'll just oppress us with sick water & flood peril.

WQ's Recovery Plan A is yet another sham in a long series of shams perpetuated by this agency. (remember the ill-named Stewardship Group composed of anti-stewards & political hacks that entirely omitted the only real stewards in Elk River, the actual people who live here?). We won't get fooled again in that way, at least.

Recovery Plan A is already a failure. Time for Plan B.

~Stephanie