

City of Santa Cruz Petitions for Change

The City of Santa Cruz is proposing the addition of direct diversion as a method of diversion to its existing water rights at the Felton diversion facility on the San Lorenzo River (Permit Nos. 16601 and 16123) and at Loch Lomond Reservoir on Newell Creek, aka Newell Creek Reservoir (License 9847).

The proposed addition of direct diversion will not cause the existing limits on the water rights to be exceeded. The two Felton Permits have a combined limit of 3,000 acre feet per year, and a maximum rate of 20 cubic feet per second. The Loch Lomond License has a maximum diversion to storage of 5,600 acre feet per year. The City proposes to limit the maximum rate of direct diversion for the License at 20.9 cubic feet per second.

The existing seasons of diversion will not change. There are no new facilities or other construction activities associated with these Petitions.

The purpose of the Petitions is to conform the water rights to existing and historical operations and conditions at these facilities. The existing water rights are for diversion to storage, and did not include rights of direct diversion, apparently an oversight in the original permitting process.