

## **Barnes, Peter@Waterboards**

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**From:** Daniel Brasuell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 07, 2013 3:00 PM  
**To:** Barnes, Peter@Waterboards  
**Subject:** Pit River Summer Releases

I recently heard that the State Water Resources Control Board is proposing permanent cancellation of summer flows on the Pit River on the Pit 1 section. I am a 20 year avid kayaker and author of [www.awetstate.com](http://www.awetstate.com) which provides kayakers and other river enthusiasts the information they need to access the rivers safely. I have enjoyed the Pit river for the past 6 years as a go to place for enjoyable summer boating.

I have seen many times, similar to the North Fork of the Feather River, the damage that the dewatering of these river channels causes on the habitat of native species and the resulting overgrowth of the riparian zone on these rivers. This is of course not to mention the affect that the artificial reservoirs have on the habitat. Drowning breeding areas of many species and permanently scarring the rocks and canyons around them.

So it is with this background that I am curious what studies have been done to show that summer releases are the cause of the Shasta Crayfish population decline. Has it been ruled out that unnatural water temperatures due to the powerhouses and reservoirs could have caused it? Or that the deviation from natural flow year round could have caused it? What direct knowledge do we have that a pulse of water a few weekends a year is the root cause? Also, if the recreational pulse of water is not allowed, what restrictions will be levied on the owners of the powerhouses and reservoirs? Will they be punished if they decide for whatever reason (turbine goes down, peak power generation, dam maintenance, whatever) they release water into the stream?

Without proper study to find that in fact these pulse weekends are the cause, and without proper due diligence to ensure that all parties controlling the river are legally bound to the same ruling, I do not see how it can be said that due diligence has been done nor that the Board is acting in good faith.

Thank you,

Daniel Brasuell  
[www.awetstate.com](http://www.awetstate.com)