

## **Barnes, Peter@Waterboards**

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**From:** Robert & Bonnie Sloan <bnbsloan@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2015 6:11 PM  
**To:** Barnes, Peter@Waterboards  
**Subject:** Lake Almanor Thermal Curtain

Peter Barnes, Engineering Geologist  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Rights, Water Quality Certification Program  
P.O. Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Dear Mr. Barnes,

As a resident of Lake Almanor West for the past 12 years, I am very concerned that your alternate proposals in the draft EIR have not been rationally thought through, and disregard the impacts on Lake Almanor, its residents, the area economy, and the ecology of the lake itself and the surrounding area. The settlement agreement which was reached in 2004 provided more cold water without the detrimental effects that would be seen if either of the alternate plans were imposed. These alternatives, "thermal curtain" and "more cold water releases", should be removed from the EIR as unworkable solutions, which would create environmental problems even greater than the ones which it proposed to solve.

Reducing the cold water in a lake that is as shallow as Lake Almanor will increase the algal blooms and reduce the best fish habitat, which will effect both fish reproduction and the bird life which feeds on the fish. This degradation of the lake has effects both economic and environmental. We are already seeing some of these changes due to the minuscule amounts of snow pack for the last 2 winters. The lake levels are the lowest they have been for many, many years. Businesses have gone under and the economic situation in the area is bleak. The birds are struggling to reproduce in a lake whose coverage area is greatly reduced already. The environment was changed when the lake was first created, but it has created its own new environment which had been in existence now for many decades. Either of the alternate proposals would hasten the demise of the entire area. The fact that you have no data to support your proposal, that putting a thermal curtain in Lake Almanor or releasing more cold water, will actually reduce water temperature downstream, begs the question whether you are making a decision for expediency and personal or private interests, rather than for the good of the community and the environment which the lake supports.

Please reconsider including either of these alternate proposals created with no scientific basis to support them, and approve a plan that will not purposely destroy our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bonnie Sloan, Lake Almanor West Resident  
Retired Biology Teacher  
300 Manzanita Drive  
Chester, CA 96020