

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Dale and Carol Bornhorst <dcbornhorst@frontiernet.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 25, 2015 10:54 AM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Lake Almanor environmental concerns

Dear Sir,

We live on the west shore of Lake Almanor. Each year our home owners' association contributes funds used to study the health of Lake Almanor. We see that there is less dissolved oxygen in the lake as the lake warms each summer. Blue-green algae are also on the increase due to the warming water. Our fish population depends on the cold water as does the economy of the communities around the lake.

The economy of the Almanor Basin has been greatly influenced by recent natural events. The Chips Fire in 2012 brought an abrupt and early end to the tourist season. The drought has also impacted tourism. Businesses that depend on tourism are now floundering or have gone out of business. And now a group of people want to pull the cold water out of the Lake.....for what? What was the river system like before the dam was built? Did Butt Lake exist and did it have a hydro-electric power station? What fish were thriving in the lower reaches of the Feather River system?

It appears that special interests are again at work to get what they want regardless of the impact on the majority. I would imagine that the special interest also has hopes for financial gain should the thermal curtain and pulling of cold water from Lake Almanor go through.

Climate change is also influencing the health of the lake. We have had little or no snow the past two years. If we have a warmer spring, the snow at the higher elevations of the water shed will melt quickly and there will be a trickle of continuous flow of cold water into the lake during the summer, which will allow the lake to warm and that will cause a cascade of not so pleasant events. Pulling the cold water from the lake will only increase the problems.

Please send a reply that this was received and read. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dale and Carol Bornhorst
922 Long Iron Drive,
Chester, CA 96020