

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Kathleen Copeland <keacopeland13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 9:39 AM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Lake Almanor Thermal Curtain

Mr. Barnes:

I draft this letter to you in response to the proposal to create a thermal curtain, thus taking the cold water from Lake Almanor which will most certainly affect the fish in a dire manner, which will result in challenged fishing conditions, which ultimately would wreak havoc on our local economy. Much of our county relies on Lake Almanor to provide an interest to non-locals to want to vacation here, bringing more dollars into our towns. The Thermal Curtain proposal will negate significantly that desire for tourists to boat, fish and swim here. Once it is realized that Lake Almanor can not provide the recreational opportunities it has for generations, people will go elsewhere. When the dollars are taken elsewhere, businesses start to fold. When businesses start to fold, locals begin to move. Schools then become impacted. Currently, at Chester High School, we have a working fish hatchery, *Almanor Research Institute*, with 50,000 fish, created for students to better understand the whole cycle of fish and how important they are to our communities. The students are hands on involved from spawn to release. We have been fortunate enough to provide this opportunity for every "next" generation to visualize how "their" economy works. If this is taken away, it is one more thing that adversely affects "us". The list goes on and on when considering the domino effect of a thermal curtain. We value Lake Almanor as it is, and always has been, since it's creation 100 years ago. We respectfully ask for no change.

I request that you reject the thermal curtain/increased release alternatives and instead choose to protect Lake Almanor and Lake Almanor Basin communities. Please preserve Lake Almanor and leave it be.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Copeland
Education Specialist, Chester High School
45 year resident of Lake Almanor