

## **Barnes, Peter@Waterboards**

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**From:** jamesmeverett@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:28 PM  
**To:** Barnes, Peter@Waterboards  
**Subject:** Comments on the Draft EIR - Lake Almanor

As a homeowner in the Lake Almanor community I am vehemently opposed to the California Water Board staff recommendation in the draft Environmental Impact Report. As a child growing up along the Feather River I cannot imagine why, we would export most or all of Lake Almanor's cold water pool to achieve a marginal benefit far downstream? This would be an ecological disaster, when you consider the age of this hydroelectric Dam. There are already water warming mitigation's on the Feather River such as the Thermalito after bay that provide a rise in temperature. Now we will cool it down only to have to warm it again downstream? Is that worth the destruction of the inherent beauty of the Lake Almanor recreation area? Does the EIR define the effect of raising the temperature of Lake Almanor and the potential for increased algae blooms, causing a negative impact to fish, birds and humans? Even if I didn't own a home in Lake Almanor, I cannot imagine why I would want my tax dollars spent on such an irresponsible proposal. From a project management standpoint, I cannot imagine how this project can be justified to the public and how we the public can expect any return of investment. However, It is very easy to see the damage this project will do to the Lake Almanor recreation area. It is not nearly as easy to see the slightest benefit to anyone else. As one of the most beautiful places in California, and actually very similar to the Lake Tahoe area, I cannot help but wonder if this ridiculous idea would look as good if proposed in Lake Tahoe. I am guessing the answer to that question would be no. Who will be accountable for my home value going down, the beauty of the area being destroyed and the damage to the local fishing? As a taxpayer and a home owner, I couldn't be opposed to this recommendation more. I respectfully request that you re-visit this issue and drop this awful proposal. It is an idea that should be eliminated, and should be considered in the context of if you would want this type of undertaking if it was your home it would be depreciating? Would you enjoy Lake Tahoe more with some ugly eyesore planted in the middle of it? Would that enhance the local fishing and bird population? Even though Almanor is a man-made lake, it is still enjoyed by the public and used as a recreation and fishing area with its own intrinsic beauty. It is a valuable public resource that needs protection. This proposal is not accomplishing that. The beauty of this area would be diminished greatly by this proposal. The fact that both alternatives involve the same solution makes me curious if we as taxpayers are paying the price for some specialty contractor to be able to have the pleasure of being the only successful bidder for this weird proposal. As a homeowner in this area, and as a person who's family will be negatively impacted by this, I am completely opposed to this proposal. As a taxpayer, I am even more opposed to this huge expenditure for so little (if any) potential gain.

Thank you for your attention,

James Everett  
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