



Dear Mr. Barnes,

Our entire family is adamantly opposed to the Water Board staff recommendation in the draft EIR.

We are newcomers to the Lake Almanor area. We bought a house and a lake front lot to build our dream cabin on three years ago. When we started researching the area we came across a number of signs, some as far away as 150 miles away on Hwy 5, protesting the idea of a thermal curtain.

We did our research then and have now reviewed the draft EIR. I think it comes down to what action, thermal curtain or not, will serve the greater cause. It is hard for me to understand how sending cold water downstream where a minimal number of people and fish would benefit from this water could even come close to outweighing the detrimental effects to the lake where thousands of people recreate and 10's of thousands of fish thrive. I say this from the perspective of a passionate fly fisherman who has been fortunate to fish most of California's rivers and throughout Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

The Lake Almanor area is in a precarious financial condition. Logging has diminished over the past decades. Many businesses have disappeared as a result of this and the recent long and hard recession. The population is decreasing. Tourism is a critical piece of Lake Almanor's economic engine. Adversely affecting the water quality and fishing in the lake will not help this sector of business. It can only lead to continued economic decline.

The SWRCB is proposing the Canyon Dam tower and Prattville tower be repaired and altered to take the coldest water from Lake Almanor. They are proposing that flows of the cold water be increased from June 15 through September 15th at a rate of 250cfs, which is a higher flow than is customary. Furthermore, it is at the SWRCB's own discretion whether or not to install THERMAL CURTAINS.

SWRCB own science shows that the cold water they plan to remove from Lake Almanor is not sufficient to lower the water downstream to desired temperature in normal or dry years—and we are in the third year of a major drought with no end in sight. Therefore, neither the changes to the flows from the towers nor the thermal curtain itself is likely to achieve the goal. Our lake, our fish, our community needs Lake Almanor's cold water.

Reducing the cold water pool in Lake Almanor will result in a warmer lake and increased algae blooms, impacting both fish and humans.

We urge you to reject the concept of installing a thermal curtain.

Sincerely,

The Maudru Family - Bill, Terri, Jennifer, Jessica, Lindsay and Trevor
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