

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: john murphy, murphy technical services <murphytk@sonic.net>
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 9:01 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Cc: lacc; Marcy Murphy
Subject: final environmental impact report

Dear Peter Barnes:

I am very disappointed that the final report proposes to test the hypothesis that cooler water from Lake Almanor can be transported through Canyon dam, to the Seneca and Belden reaches, and will cool the waters there such that they can support wild trout in the warmest part of the year.

I have attended two meetings with all of the stake holders for the Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project no. 2105. As you are well aware there was a strong local opposition against taking the cooler water from Lake Almanor to be used to possibly cool the Seneca and Belden reaches.

Testimony was given by knowledgeable fishermen and by the Fish and Game employees who discussed the issue of warming in Lake Almanor, which in the September-October time frame was sufficient to cause health issues for our lake trout. Lake Almanor trout caught in the fall tend to have lesions which are apparently caused by stresses from lake water which is above 77 degrees F, (24 degrees C). The lesions are ugly reddish sores.

Actually, Rainbow, Brown, and Brook trout can experience stress lesions above 68 degrees F, (20 degrees C).

So why would you try to make Lake Almanor's current fishery situation worse by depleting our coolest waters with a thermal curtain, all in the hopes of cooling downstream waters to below 77 degrees F?

The Lake Almanor's coolest water is insufficiently cool to do the job required to reduce the Seneca and Belden reaches water to less than 77 degrees F. After it has been transported 20 or more miles it will not be cooler. This is an experiment set up to fail! What will be left of the Seneca and Belden reaches water and Lake Almanor water will be too warm for healthy trout in either place!

If you proceed with your experiment, you will have been responsible for the destruction of the abundant Lake Almanor fishery, and with nothing to show for the Seneca and Belden reaches.

Most Sincerely,

John K. Murphy
murphytk@sonic.net

Please reconsider what you are about to do!

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: john murphy, murphy technical services <murphytk@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 4:20 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Re: final environmental impact report

Dear Mr. Barnes:

I appreciate your email. It has been mentioned that the downstream waters could be made cooler with the planting of shading shrubs in the areas where the water backs up from a dam. That would be is a simple, cheap experiment.

A good method of gauging the likelihood of the proposed sending cooler water downstream project is to consider the project something you have been invited to invest your own money in! Do you think the odds favor the success of such a project to invest your savings in?

Regards,

john murphy

----- Original Message -----

From: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
To: [john murphy, murphy technical services](mailto:john.murphy@murphytechnicalservices.com)
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 1:46 PM
Subject: RE: final environmental impact report

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for your comments. I will make sure that they are added to the record and taken into consideration. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,
Peter Barnes

From: john murphy, murphy technical services [<mailto:murphytk@sonic.net>]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 9:01 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Cc: lacc; Marcy Murphy
Subject: final environmental impact report

Dear Peter Barnes:

I am very disappointed that the final report proposes to test the hypothesis that cooler water from Lake Almanor can be transported through Canyon dam, to the Seneca and Belden reaches, and will cool the waters there such that they can support wild trout in the warmest part of the year.

I have attended two meetings with all of the stake holders for the Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project no. 2105. As you are well aware there was a strong local opposition against taking the cooler water from Lake Almanor to be used to possibly cool the Seneca and Belden reaches.

Testimony was given by knowledgeable fishermen and by the Fish and Game employees who discussed the issue of warming in Lake Almanor, which in the September-October time frame was sufficient to cause health issues for our lake

trout. Lake Almanor trout caught in the fall tend to have lesions which are apparently caused by stresses from lake water which is above 77 degrees F, (24 degrees C). The lesions are ugly reddish sores.

Actually, Rainbow, Brown, and Brook trout can experience stress lesions above 68 degrees F, (20 degrees C).

So why would you try to make Lake Almanor's current fishery situation worse by depleting our coolest waters with a thermal curtain, all in the hopes of cooling downstream waters to below 77 degrees F?

The Lake Almanor's coolest water is insufficiently cool to do the job required to reduce the Seneca and Belden reaches water to less than 77 degrees F. After it has been transported 20 or more miles it will not be cooler. This is an experiment set up to fail! What will be left of the Seneca and Belden reaches water and Lake Almanor water will be too warm for healthy trout in either place!

If you proceed with your experiment, you will have been responsible for the destruction of the abundant Lake Almanor fishery, and with nothing to show for the Seneca and Belden reaches.

Most Sincerely,

John K. Murphy
murphytk@sonic.net

Please reconsider what you are about to do!

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: john murphy, murphy technical services <murphytk@sonic.net>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 7:12 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Cc: Marcy Murphy; lacc
Subject: Draft EIR, PG&E Certification UNFFR Project NO 2105

Dear Mr. Barnes:

As an engineering geologist you must have some idea how difficult it will be to send the coolest water from Lake Almanor more than 25 miles downstream expecting it to be able to reduce the temperature of the water backed up from the dams on the Feather River to less than 20 degrees Celsius. All this effort is aimed at providing an acceptable trout habitat downstream. I have read that trout really prefer a maximum of 19 degrees C or less!

I have participated in and managed engineering projects for many years. I would not rank this project as having even a modest chance of success. I would not invest my money in such a scheme, would you?

Worst of all, such a scheme would take the coolest water from Lake Amanor during the hottest time of the year, when our lake Almanor fish are already suffering the ill effects of water which is too warm! Have you caught fish with body lesions in September? It is not a sight that is conducive fish eating.

If you are the one who will approve or reject the certification would you rather be known for rejecting a wild idea which seemed doomed to destroy Lake Almanor fishing or as the man who ruined Lake Almanor fishing?

Please consider the magnitude of your recommendation.

We will be watching.

Sincerely,

John K. Murphy