

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Paul Smith <psmith@countyofcolusa.com>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 11:12 AM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Thermal Curtain

Please scrap the entire idea of the thermal curtain at Lake Almanor. Why destroy a phenomenal fishery and recreation lake, for the possibility of lowering water temperatures by a degree or two for fish downstream. Before the dams were built there was no source of cold water for the fish so why create an unnatural one. People think they need to increase flows and lower water temperatures (which can only be done as a result of the dams) in all of the rivers and streams to save fish and create a more natural scenario for the fish. However, before the creation of these dams the fish had to rely on whatever the natural flow was for a particular year which is often much less than what is released from dams today. For example, in late summer early fall the releases from Oroville far exceed the inflow. Thus, the fish face better conditions now than they did in the past. Sure they could have travelled farther upstream, but there would be far less and not much cooler water than they have now. Same with fish below Almanor. In dry years such as the past few, the fish have received more and cooler water as a result of the dam storage than they would have under "natural conditions" i.e.; if the dam did not exist. The idea of the thermal curtain is not proven to work, **will result** fish kill as opposed to a few fish **may** die from warmer than optimal temperatures, and will result in higher energy bills for PG&E customers as they will pass the cost on to customers. Please help stop this asinine project from occurring.

Paul Smith
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