

Letter from Phil Erickson Dated January 5, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

Jan. 5, 2000 Russell Hill 17 Oak Rd. Fairfax CA 94930

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1125 16th St. Room 209 Arcata, CA 95521

Dear Mr. Polos,

I am writing to urge that the Maximum Flow Alternative should be selected for the Trinity River. I also want to go on record urging that the decision not be delayed. An April 2000 decision is long overclue.

The Trinity River Act of 1955 mandated that the fish and wildlife of the basin were not to be harmed, but 35 years of ignoring that Congressional mandate has led to a 90% decline in the fisheries. Coho salmon are now listed under the Endangered Species Act and steelhead trout are likely to follow.

During the past 35 years I have watched one species after another fall victim in the war for California's water. We humans, of course, are the final victims in any degradation of the environment. It is heartening to me that within my lifetime I might see the restoration of the Trinity River and its fishery.

Returning a 48% flow to the Trinity is not an alternative that will satisfy the congressional mandate. I urge you to exercise common sense in restoring a California resource that is part of a \$60 billion recreation and tourism industry. And I urge you to act to restore the maximum flow to the Trinity, so that my grandchildren might once again enjoy what I, as a boy, enjoyed.

Sincerely, Russell Hill

phones Hui

Letter from Russell Hill Dated January 5, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4146-1

2090 East Lakeshore Drive Agoura, CA 91301 January 3, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1125 16th Street, Room 209 Arcata, CA. 95521

Dear Mr. Polos:

When I was 9 and 10 years old (some 46 years ago) I went to summer camp in the Trinity Alps on a tributary of the Trinity River. The fishing was great. The flows were plentiful. The uncontrolled logging was just beginning to ruin the area. Dams were not in place yet. Over the years I have visited the area on many occasions. It is awful what has happened to the habitat over the years and it is shameful that we humans could have permitted it to happen.

Nothing but the Maximum Flow Alternative should be selected for the Trinity River and delays beyond April 2000 should not be tolerated.

Sincerely

Michael Hart

Letter from Michael Hart Dated January 3, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4147-1



THOMSON & HENDRICKS ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

4148

PAUL M. HENDRICKS, ARCHITECT

LARATION DR., SUITE A • CHICO, CA 95973 • (530) 342-5669 • FAX (530) 342-7582 • E-MAIL tendh@stormnet.com

January 5, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos US Fish and Wildlife Service 1125 16th Street, Room 209 Arcata, CA 95521

RE: Trinity River Flows

Dear Mr. Polos,

I am writing in support of maintaining the Trinity River at a minimum of 70% of its normal flow. In order for the salmon and steelhead of the Trinity River to have the best chance for reproduction and survival, the River needs to be at least 70% of its normal water flow.

4148-1

As a person who has been involved with flyfishing and conservation projects for over 25 years, I know that once a species of fish is lost to an area, it is very hard to reintroduce it back into the environment.

Please make it possible for us to not lose the excellent fishery that currently exists on the Trinity River.

Sincerely.

Paul Hendricks

Thomson & Hendricks, Inc. Architects and Planners

: The Inside Angler - P.O. Box 31282, San Francisco, CA 94131-0282

Letter from Paul Hendricks, Thomas & Hendricks Architects and Planners Dated January 5, 2000

4148-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

1-6-2000 MR Joe Potos, 4149 U.S. Fish + Wildtiffe Ser, 1125 16 th st RM 200 ARCATA, CA-95521

Dear Mr Joe Polos!

Joe For 35 years the flow of water into Trinity River of water into Trinity River has been studied. Delayed, more like it! Any extention past April 2000 only more delay! Time To get off pot! hets get waters back into its watershied! Full Flow into Trinity! No half Assed Flows! That would only lead to Another Clow study of 25-35 yrs! Make Trinity water, shed whole Again in April 2000 Harred a Keelen I 2000

Letter from Harold A. Keelen, Jr., Dated January 6, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

- 4149-

Letter from John Petersen Dated January 5, 2000

4150

4150-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

January 5, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1125 16th Street, Room 209 Arcata, CA 95521

RE: Draft Trinity River EIS/R

EIS/R Team Members:

The Trinity River has been drained nearly to death. Its water has gone mainly to benefit commercial users who neither pay a fair price nor have incentive to conserve its use.

I support the new recommendations as being better than nothing, but they do not go far enough. Doubling the flow will help, but the Trinity needs more than half its natural flow to return as a living stream. The new "Preferred Alternative" is not adequate. I would like to see a policy that diverts no more than one-third of the river's water.

Sincerely,

247 Wagle Lane Fieldbrook, CA 95519 (707) 839-0758 4150-1

Letter from R. J. Hanavan Dated January 5, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

15/00

4151

MR. Joe Pobs From: R.J. HANAVAN

US Fish + Wildlife Service 46 BAGTARR LA

1125 16th St.: Prom 209 Los Allos, 494022

ARCOTO, CA 9552/ (650)948-7355-FANA

1650)948-7355-FANA

Re: TRINITY RIVER Flow Study

Dear Sir,

This letter is written in support of the Maximum Flow Alternative for the Trivity Ruer. Sixteen years ago longress mandated that fish + wildlife populations be restored to the level immediately preceding dam construction what could be clearer?

to death, objuscated, "b.s. ed to death? Very, very, clearly because the Westland Waster District has opposed any level of restoration. They have

been getting almost fall water for so long fact

there free water with anywe, Too bed! It they

had even to pay a fain price for water and/or do what congress mandated in 1884 they would no

be complexing Now.

Please do the right thing - the Maximum flow Attentive

- 4151-1 cont'd

4151-1

219 Carmel Ave Piedmont, Ca 94611

January 4, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1125 16th St., Room 209 Arcata, Ca 95521

Dear Mr. Polos,

I am not a tree hugging environmentalist, or in any way a fanatic. What I am is a fifth generation Californian who enjoys the great outdoors, and has seen the mistakes made in the name of progress and commerce to our great state. We now understand that technology; engineering, etc. cannot solve all our problems.

I also believe that more often than not, we must accept the fact that times change, and supporting economically or environmentally unsound policies that made sense fifty years ago no longer make sense in today's world.

Where I am going here is simple: we made some big mistakes in 1963, when dams diverted so much water flow to the Trinity River, that there was a massive decline in the fisheries in that area.

Commitments by the Dept of the Interior to maintain a healthy fishery have been a joke. The recently completed draft EIS/EIR indicates that a primary factor in the decline of the Trinity River ecosystem is the decreased water flows.

Now is the time to resist the pressures of powerful lobbyists, and "Do The Right Thing", as Spike Lee would say. I implore you to resist compromise, and choose the Maximum Flow Alternative, which allows for a more natural recovery. Please, have the courage to make the right decision, and prevent any more delays, or political compromises.

Sincerely.

Thomas E. Pillsbury

Letter from Thomas E. Pillsbury Dated January 4, 2000

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4152-1

RDD/TRINITY4145-4173.DOC

D3-1687

January 4, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1125 16th St., Room 209 Arcata, Calif. 95521

Dear Mr. Polos:

Re: Restoration of Water Flow on the Trinity River

I am writing to urge your support of the Maximum Flow Alternative in the federal government's draft EIS/EIR report. It is clear that the major cause of our fisheries deterioration on the Trinity has been due to the excessive water diversion to users in the Central Valley. We have witnessed the near collapse of several species, including salmon and steelhead, while neglecting simple and fundamental changes that would allow for recovery. It is no longer acceptable to allow the decline and disappearance of a fishery for the sake of economic interests distant to the fishery. Only by restoring the original flows to the Trinity River can we expect the gradual return and recovery of the habitat and fish. CalFed needs to incorporate plans independent of Trinity water. The federal government needs to mandate the most effective solution, not a compromise that will have inherent need for revision in the forth coming years. I support the plan for the Secretary of the Interior to make his decision by April 2000, and am supported in the request for the Maximum Flow Alternative by our 150 member fly fishing club.

4153-1 cont'd

Yours truly, Thomas Africk mo

Thomas R. Deetz, M.D. Conservation Chair, Santa Cruz Fly Fishermen 244 Brodin Ln.

Watsonville, Calif. 95076

Letter from Thomas R. Deetz, MD, Conservation Chair, Santa Cruz Fly Fishermen, Dated January 4, 2000

4153-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries." Official Public Comment

Dear EIS/EIR Team Members:

I support a diversion of no more that 30 percent of the natural water flow from the Trinity River Basin. While I support the science and study that produced the Flow Evaluation Report, the recommendations were limited by an assumption about the amount of water that could be available for the river. Legislation creating the Trinity River Division, and additional legislation clearly gives Trinity fish and wildlife priority over the diversion of any water to the CVP. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative does not go far enough to achieve a legally mandated restoration of the ecosystem.

Thank You,
Name:

Address:
City/State/Zip:

Ms. Marilyn Jasper
3921 Dawn Dr.
Loomis, CA 95650

Official Public Comment

4155

Dear EIS/EIR Team Members:

support a diversion of no more that 30 percent of the natural water flow from the Trinity River Basin. While I support the science and study that roduced the Flow Evaluation Report, the recommendations were limited by in assumption about the amount of water that could be available for the river, egislation creating the Trinity River Division, and additional legislation clearly gives Trinity fish and wildlife priority over the diversion of any water of the CVP. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative does not go far enough to chieve a legally mandated residation of the ecosystem.

hank You,
Vame:
Shari A Celador
Uddress:
1401 Atrose Lin#6
Ity/State/Zip:
Redding CA 96002

Postcards from Marilyn Jasper and Shari A. Celador

4154-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

4155-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

Official Public Comment

4156

Dear EIS/EIR Team Members:

I support a diversion of no more that 30 percent of the natural water flow from the Trinity River Basin. While I support the science and study that produced the Flow Evaluation Report, the recommendations were limited by an assumption about the amount of water that could be available for the river. Legislation creating the Trinity River Division, and additional legislation clearly gives Trinity fish and wildlife priority over the diversion of any water to the CVP. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative does not go far enough to achieve a legally mandated restoration of the ecosystem.

Thank You,
Name: VINCE JACIBS
Address: 1420 Buse Park Dr 2 PCF
City/State/Tip: Secretary 10 (4 258)5

Official Public Comment

4157

Dear EIS/EIR Team Members:

support a diversion of no more that 30 percent of the natural water flow from the Trinity River Basin. While I support the science and study that roduced the Flow Evaluation Report, the recommendations were limited by an assumption about the amount of water that could be available for the river. Legislation creating the Trinity River Division, and additional legislation clearly gives Trinity fish and wildlife priority over the diversion of any water to the CVP. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative does not go far enough to schieve a legally mandated restoration of the ecosystem.

Thank You,
Name: Shane Kohlberte
Address: 4140 (hurn Creek fl.

City/State/Zip: Radding, (A. 9600)



Postcards from Vince Jacobs and Shane Kohlbeck

4156-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

4157-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

January 10, 2000

Mr. Joe Poles US Fish & Wildlife Service 1655 Heindon Road Arcata, CA 95521

Re: Trinity River Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Report

Dear Mr. Polos:

I am writing today at support of adopting a Trinity River management plan that will implement a flow regime of at least 70 percent of the river's natural flow. The Preferred Alternative falls considerably short of that objective.

The Trinity River long has been recognized as an important waterway for fish, wildlife, and people. It once supported thriving steelhead runs frimous among angless throughout the West. Since the Trinity River dains were completed in 1963, under the authority of the Trinity River Act of 1955, excessive water diversions have led to a nearly 90 percent decline in the fisheries. The coho sulmon recently were listed under the Endangered Species Act and steelhead are a candidate for listing.

Restoration of the Trinity River is mandated in the 1955 legislation authorizing construction of the Trinity River Division, the Trinity River Basia Fish and Wildlife Management Act of 1984, and the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA). The CVPIA reaffirms the Trinity's unique position within the Central Valley Project and clearly sets forth that restoration of the Trinity is to be considered independently from other California water issues.

The federal government's promise to maintain a healthy fishery in the Trinity River has been disregarded for the last 36 years. Let us not waste any more time in restoring this magnificent stream to its former splendor.

Sincerely,

Deanna Spooner P.O. Box 6185 Albany, CA 94706

Letter from Deanna Spooner Dated January 10, 2000

4158-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

4158-1

3055 23rd Avenue San Francisco, CA 94132-1533 415/681-0957 January 10, 2000

Mr. Joe Polos U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1655 Herndon Road Arcata, CA 95521

Subject: DEIS/EIR Comments on "Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration."

Chapter 1.5 "Indian Tribes," pp. 1-14, 1-15:

Requires an explanation of why the tribes in the Lower Klamath River Basin, of which the Trinity River is a major tributary, are entitled to enough streamflow to return the salmon to productivity so as to enable these tribes to be selfsupporting. They have, by virtue of treaties and other federal enactments creating their reservations, reserved water rights in the Trinity and Klamath rivers. They have prior rights as opposed to secondary rights, their reservations having been established prior to subsequent fillings by white settlers in the Klamath River Basin. Although Chapter 1.5 is enlarged upon in Chapter 3.6, many readers may miss, or decide to skip, a chapter titled "Tribal Trust." Much of the information in Chapter 3.6 might better have been included in Chapter 3.5.4., "Ocean Fisheries Economics"-- the tribes will be involved in commercial fishing. page 3-192, if the salmon industry can be returned to productivity to the extent required by the Klamath River Basin Fishery Resources Restoration Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 460ss.)

The Yurok reservation encompasses the Klamath River from the mouth of the Trinity to the Pacific Ocean, a distance of 44 miles with a one-mile wide strip of land on each side of the river. The Tribe was deprived of sufficient flows when the Bureau of Reclamation began delivering in 1964 up to 90 percent of the flow of the Trinity--over a million acre-feet per year--to Westlands Water District. Likewise deprived was the Hoopa Valley Tribe. So was the Karuk Tribe of the Salmon River, also a tributary of the Klamath River. (The Karuk did not receive reservation status until recently.) Although page 3-211 of the DEIS-EIR refers to the advisory the Regional Solicitor gave the Bureau of Reclamation on tribal and national wildlife refuge rights in a memorandum dated July 25, 1995, the reference omits the month and date of the memorandum.

What I have had time to read of the 1113 pages of the DEIS-EIR, including the alternatives, indicates a bias in favor of continuing to provide prestine water to marginal land on the west side of San Joaquin Valley. The selection of references in the bibliography also bears this out. I feel that the record should show that in 1963 Westlands signed a contract with Secretary Stewart Udall which provided annual deliveries of 1,008,000 acrefeet instead of 704,000 acre-feet, the figure in the 1962 contract which Westlands refused to sign. It is not well

Letter from Doris Ostrander Dawdy Dated January 10, 2000

- 4159-1 Please read page 3-211 of the DEIS/EIR, "Water Rights" paragraph, specifically the explanation of the Winters Doctrine.
- The format of the citation in the text is correct. The date for the memorandum appears on page 6-12 of Chapter 6.0 References.

4159-1

4159-2

inderstood how the Bureau of Reclamation and Congressman Clair Engle, at public hearings in Weaverville, left the impression with Trinity County residents that the Bureau had agreed to divert only 30 percent of the flow. Trinity County was told in 1952 that the flow would never fall below 175 cubic feet per second. Engle's revised bill, apparently redrafted shortly before it was passed by both houses in 1955, called for only 150 cfs, which meant that during the summer months the temperature of the water would be even higher and the deterioration of the channel and of salmon spawning areas even more pronounced. (For more details of what the revised bill provided, see Trinity River Division, Central Valley Project, 69 Stat. 719.) For the above reasons I recommend that an annual Maximum Flow of 70 percent be Reclamation.

Before leaving office in 1981, Secretary Cecil Andrus initiated an increase in flow and a flow study of the Trinity River. His efforts resulted in a tentative increase in flow to 25 percent. Apparently the highest percentage of flow Trinity County can expect from the recently completed flow study is 47 percent.

The Preferred Alternative in the DEIS-EIR anticipates that raising Trinity Dam, restoring spawning gravels to the channel (the Bureau had been doing that until 1999), and reshaping and widening the channel will bring back the salmon. At the August 1999 conference in Seattle of the American Society of Civil Engineers, a Bureau employee charged with revamping the channel showed slides of the equipment at work in the channel and candidly admitted failure. He looks to a technique called feathering to produce results, but that technique has been the butt of considerable criticism from private sector scientists of good reputation.

A recent communication to Trinity County from the Bureau is an agenda item of a meeting in Weaverville on January 12, 2000, which reads: "Reclamation is working on an appraisal level report to raise Trinity Dam which shows that it's infeasible to raise Trinity Dam with the Preferred Alternative." Why wasn't this determined before publication of the Preferred Alternative in the DEIS-EIR? The Bureau is credited by Ch2M Hill, its consultant who produced the DEIS-EIR, as one of the authors. In Chapter 5.1, "Lead and Participating Agencies," it is stated that the "coleads" are the Pish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, Trinity County, and the Hoopa Valley Tribe, in that order. Were Trinity County and the Hoopa Valley Tribe accorded the same amount of input to the DEIS-EIR as the Bureau and the Fish and Wildlife Service? Or did the Bureau rule the

Yours sincerely Dorrs Ostrander Dawy

Letter from Doris Ostrander Dawdy continued

4159-3 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."

4159-4

4159-5

4159-3

4159-4

4159-5

Modifications to Trinity Dam are not required under the Preferred Alternative (only under the Maximum Flow Alternative). However, Reclamation has studied the option of raising Trinity Dam as a separate action. The question being explored is: given the implementation of the Preferred Alternative, is there a benefit to be gained by undertaking a project to raise Trinity Dam? The appraisal-level report has indicated that it is not a feasible action; the hydrology of the Trinity River would not support both the proposed instream flow regime and a larger reservoir capacity. This does not affect the implementation of the Preferred Alternative.

Each agency was given the same deference regarding all decisions in the preparation of the DEIS/EIR; Trinity County is the sole lead agency for the CEQA portion of the document.



San Joaquin River Group



- Modesto Irrigation District
- Turlock Irrigation District
- South San Joaquin Irrigation District
 San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors

P.O. Box 4068 Modesto, CA 95352 (289) 526-7405 (209) 526-7315-Fax

- Merced Irrigation District
 Oakdale Irrigation District
 - Friant Water Users Authority
 - City and County of San Francisco

November 16, 1999

FAKED

WARESHOP NR

12/1/49

CALIFORNIA/NEVADA

The Honorable Bruce Babbitt U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, NW Room 6151 Washington, DC 20240

: Trinity River Mainstern Fishery Restoration EIS/EIR

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

We have recently received a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/EIR) analyzing and making recommendations for actions to "restore and maintain the natural production of anadromous fish on the Trinity River mainstem downsteam of Lewiston Darn". The scope of the DEIS/EIR and the magnitude of the adverse impacts resulting from execution of the "preferred alternative" necessitate a very comprehensive and careful review of the data and analysis. We therefore request a 90-day extension in the public comment period to allow for proper consideration of the facts and alternatives for action.

Accomplishing Trinity River environmental restoration goals in a reasonable, prudent, and feasible manner that minimizes adverse impacts and allows for concurrent resolution of CVPIA and CalFed objectives, will require additional data analysis and synthesis of alternatives not covered by the DEIS/EIR.

We understand that other stakeholders intend to prepare detailed constructive comments on the DEIS/EIR and to work with you and the responsible state and federal agencies to achieve these goals. In addition to our request for a 90-day extension of the public comment period, we ask that you consider holding informational workshops to explain to the larger public constituency the scientific basis for the preferred alternative and to engage in discussion of potential impacts.

Mr. Secretary, your decision on Trinity River fishery improvement actions will impact a broad spectrum of individuals, businesses, and communities throughout the Central Valley. We encourage collaborative efforts between the Department of the Interior and stateholders towards resolving environmental and water resource issues whenever possible. Extending the public comment period on the Draft EIS/EIR on Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration will make a positive stride in that direction.

Sincerely,

ALLEN SHORT Coordinator

> Mike Spear Lester Snow Dan Fults



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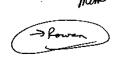
JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service; Arcata, CA

Letter from San Joaquin River Group Dated November 16, 1999

Thank you for your comments. Your comments have been noted. Regarding the length of the public comment period, the public comment period was extended to January 20th, and additional public workshops were held in Sacramento (December 6, 1999) and Weaverville (December 7, 1999).

4160-1



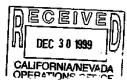
ED OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF DEL NORTE

583 "G" Street, Suite #1 CRESCENT CITY, CALIFORNIA 95531

> PHONE: (707) 464-7204 FAX: (707) 464-1165

December 15, 1999



Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt United States Department of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: TRINITY RIVER FLOW

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

The Del Norte County Board of Supervisors would like to take this opportunity to inform you of its action taken on December 7, 1999 to reaffirm the Board's previous resolution, which you will find enclosed, supporting the maximum flow for the Trinity River.

As you may be aware, the Trinity River flows into the Klamath River, which is located in beautiful Del Norte County. Since the damming of the Trinity River some thirty odd years ago, we have seen a decline in the fish runs, economic development along the river and to the aquatic life supported by normal river flows. This Board has been very supportive of the maximum water flows due in part to the economic benefit to the area. However, it has now become apparent that the depravation to the aquatic life, flora and fauna of the normal water flows have now taken its toll over and above the economic impacts to the areas adjacent to the Trinity River tributaries.

This Board urge's you to return a decision supporting the maximum water flow to the Trinity River thereby supporting the environmental concerns and the economic life of the Trinity River.

4161-1

Very truly yours

David Finigan, Chairman Del Norte County Board of Supervisors

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2000

BOS/klw

US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA

Endosure

cc: Friends of the Trinity River U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Letter from County of Del Norte, Board of Supervisors, Dated December 15, 1999

4161-1 Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

COUNTY OF DEL NORTE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION NO. 96-59

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEL NORTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN SUPPORT OF RESTORATION OF THE TRINITY RIVER FISHERIES AND A PERMANENT TRINITY RIVER FLOW REGIME

WHEREAS, Del Norte County, Humboldt County and North Coast economies are ectly linked and impacted by the health of the North Coast river systems, luding the Trinity River; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt and Trinity Counties are, for the waters of the Trinity 'er, "areas of origin" under California State law; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Congress authorized the construction of the Trinity River rision, the purpose of which was to divert Trinity River Basin water to the Central lley Project (CVP); and

WHEREAS, Federal agencies declared at the time that the project would enhance : Trinity River fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the authorizing legislation regarding the Trinity Division of the CVP conditional, providing specific statutory limitations on diversion directing that the inity Division be operated to "do no harm" to the Trinity River and those who send on it; and

WHEREAS, the Trinity Dam was completed in 1964 and diversion began

WHEREAS, within a short period of time the fisheries began to decline and hin a decade the fisheries were in crisis; and

WHEREAS, from 1964 to 1995, 31 million acre feet of water were diverted from Trinity Division to the Central Valley Project; and

WHEREAS, Del Norte nor any of the other North Coast Counties - Trinity, mboldt, or Mendocino received any financial benefit - or any compensation from erted Trinity River water: and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Secretary of the Interior Andrus recognized that operations the Trinity Division had created a "severe decline" in anadromous fish runs"; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, 1992 and 1996 legislation enacted to implement the Andrus ommendations to restore the Trinity Fishery to pre-project conditions included a manent Trinity River Flow decision to be made by the end of 1996;

BOOK 25 PAGE /2

Letter from County of Del Norte, Board of Supervisors, continued

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County Del Norte that the County in conjunction with its sister counties urges the cretary of the Interior to complete his work to establish a new flow regime as quired by the Central Valley Improvement Act, pursuant to the law and policy, dch restores and maintains a naturally reproducing fish stock within the Trinity sin below Lewiston Dam consistent with pre-project levels of abundance;

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 23rd day of July, 1996 by the following polled te:

ES:

Supervisors Reese, Clausen, Eller, Bark and Mellett

ES:

None

STAIN: None

SENT: None

Wark A Wellett MARK A. MELLETT, Chairman Del Norte County Board of Supervisors

TEST:

REN L. WALSH, Clerk of the ard of Supervisors, County of Norte, State of California

BOOK 25 PAGE /22

Letter from County of Del Norte, Board of Supervisors, continued

4161-1 cont'd

Letter from Jim Smith Dated December 15, 1999

1-06-00 10:57A

4162

P.05

Trinity County Counsel

Memo

To: Tom Stokley

From: David Hammer, County Coursel ORNO

CC;

Date: December 15, 1999

Re: Trinity River Mainstern Fishery Restoration EIS/EIR

Attached is copy of the comments from former Supervisor Jim Smith dated December 14, 1999. I requested Jim to review the EIS/EIR and provide his comments. As I am sure you know, Jim has many years experience in working on the restoration of the Trinity River, and was a member of the Task Force.

Please contact Jim directly if you have any questions regarding his comments. During the day, he can usually be reached at his antique store in the Morris Building in Weaverville.

I am returning to you one copy of the EIS/EIR, in which I have underlined the areas to which $\mbox{\it Jim}$ has made comment.

DRH/mmt

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA

1-06-00 10:58A

Comments by Jan Smith P. a. Bof 310 Junetin City Ce 46048

Overall of believe this to be a well prepared the preferred alternative as I believe it represents a sound approach to a very comply restration

areas that if ful need further classification and or consideration.

Page 2-17 First paragraph on when to convene to make places for upon management actions. The suggested writer period in for to late in the year board on past history aus businessey does not more that fat. They experience show. and receiving contracts, getting to make and a time frame as I necessity take place much earlier. Either take the time certain out of the paragraph or made it realistic.

Letter from Jim Smith continued

4162-1 Please see Response 3875-4.

4162-1

Letter from Jim Smith continued

4162-2

With the current available information, we do not believe that this flow reduction results in mortality of salmon eggs deposited in redds prior to the flow reduction. During the development of the flow recommendations of the Preferred Alternative (i.e., TRFES), the Trinity River Flow Evaluation team evaluated the effects of reducing dam releases from 450 to 300 cfs (identified in several alternatives) on spawners (USFWS and HVT, 1999). They concluded that maintaining a flow of 450 cfs until mid-October was necessary to ensure suitable water temperatures for adult salmon as identified in the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Plan. Maintaining a flow of 450 cfs until mid-October was also justified based upon studies of spawner distribution at 450 cfs by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) (CDFG 1994, 1995, 1996a, 1996b). They found that spawners to have a greater distribution as compared to lesser flows, thereby reducing competitive interactions including superimposition of redds (whereby salmon literally dig up each others nests). In addition, an evaluation of depths at which chinook spawn indicated that the shallowest of salmon redds (1 of 311 redds) was 4 inches deep (USFWS and HVT, 1999, page 105). At this depth, a change in stage of 4 to 5 inches, which occurs when flows are reduced from 450 to 300 cfs (Lewiston gage data, USGS), is not great enough to dewater salmon eggs to cause mortality. This is because salmon typically bury their eggs from 8 to 14 inches below the streambed surface (Briggs, 1953), leaving 3 to 4 inches of water depth to cover the eggs. However, reducing dam releases to below 300 cfs may result in risk of mortality by dewatering eggs.

Empirical and water temperature model data indicate water temperatures can exceed the threshold for suitability for holding and spawning adult fish (i.e., the Basin Plan Objectives or the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Plan). As an example, during the first week of October 1993, a dam release of 300 cfs was not sufficient to meet the Basin Plan objectives. However, dam releases of approximately 450 cfs were sufficient to meet the Basin Plan objectives in October 1992, 1994, and 1996 (see TRFES, page 200). Empirical and model data show that when dam-released water is relatively warm (53 degrees F), increased dam releases (e.g., 450 cfs) can ensure that downstream target temperatures are met.

P. 07

" (Z)

Is stream flows 1 st and zind paragraph To several years now those do my surveys and coments from The year has recelled many spring run salmon spower The 450 CFS shallows and then de-watered when flows are refused to 3000F restoration improves spanning habital that there will be enough increased area of spanning that 450 CAS could become the nome. herestly 300 crs during the seawning season has been most effective but that could change as the river potentially heals. At first at reductions from 450 to 300 CFS when 300crs earlies in the initial steps of

4162-2

1-05-00 10:58A

2-18

Letter from Jim Smith continued

4162-2 cont'd

Because of the unpredictable nature of meteorology and variable Lewiston Reservoir operations, which largely influence the dam-release water temperature and meeting the downstream objectives (see above response), we believe that scheduling water to assure that suitable water temperatures exist for holding and spawning adult salmon is the best restoration strategy.

Studies of the channel rehabilitation sites have indicated that higher flows have caused positive changes to several of the sites. Recent high flow events have been in conjunction with safety-of-dams releases and not as implementation of a flow schedule to restore the snowmelt portion of the hydrograph. Re-initiation of a snowmelt portion of the hydrograph (peak and descending limb) under the proposed flows of the Preferred Alternative will re-initiate processes necessary to maintain a functioning alluvial river. This will allow for the creation and maintenance of diverse salmonid habitats and will prevent the future formation of sediment berms. There have been some positive changes in habitat following high flow events. Encroaching alders have been removed by high flows in some areas; however, extensive sand berms and willow and blackberry stands are still common in most areas and were little affected by the floods of 1998, 1997, and 1995. There have been improvements to the habitat at channel rehabilitation sites. Gallagher (1999) reported that channel rehabilitation projects have resulted in an increased amount of fry and juvenile salmonid habitat as well as an increase in habitat diversity. McBain and Trush (1997) also found that high flow events have increased geomorphological habitat complexity and initiated functional floodplains at several channel rehabilitation sites. Some side channels above Douglas City have improved following high flow events as well. Several side channels have been used extensively by juvenile salmonids for rearing and adults for spawning (Glase, 1994). Part of the program for identifying and prioritizing channel rehabilitation sites will be to assess the stranding potential of each site.

Letter from Jim Smith continued

Page 2-21 Ital habitat management. To not plan for maintenance of sentention eiter as medil will prove to be a mintale of do not believe that history schows thus to be no need for maintenance of restandance . How of the magnitude medial to be that

ana (3)

are not in the cards or shown in the attending likely to be approved.

Additional concern should be given to low writer areas behind existing beaus that are not programed for restriction where fish are stranded during high flows Then areas chould be aurouged and included for project work. Though fish are last every time we have high flows by entrepoint. Providing mechanical work on an as medial boars to prepare flow outlets where fish can except as writer receive where fish can except as writer receive where fish can except as writer receives

Central walley spring run chinoch impacts It is implied here in peragraph one that the preferred alternative over the flow alternative would inverse the megative impacts in the central sollay on appring chinoch. How could think time when the surly difference between the other times when the surly difference between the other times appears to be the addition of

4162-3

The current problem of stranding of fry and juvenile salmonids is due to the presence of the riparian berms, creating an unnatural channel configuration. As flows fluctuate during the winter, especially during safety-of-dams releases, fry and juvenile salmonids move to low-velocity habitat behind the berms. As flows are reduced, fry and juveniles become stranded behind the berms. Although some degree of stranding occurs on unregulated rivers, restoration of the historic channel geometry will minimize the amount of stranding that occurs on the Trinity River. The issue of stranding will be one of the selection criteria in assessing the priority of proposed channel rehabilitation projects.

4162-4

The commentor questions why there would be a greater impact to Central Valley chinook salmon from implementation of the Preferred Alternative over the existing conditions than the Flow Evaluation Alternative over the No Action Alternative, when the only difference in these alternatives is the addition of watershed restoration. The addition of watershed restoration would only occur in the Trinity Basin. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative and the Flow Evaluation Alternative have exactly the same impacts to fishery resources in the Central Valley. For fishery resources in the Central Valley, when compared to the No Action Alternative, there are no differences in implementation of the Preferred or Flow Evaluation Alternatives.

However, there are greater incremental impacts from the implementation of the No Action Alternative over existing conditions than there are from the implementation of the Preferred/Flow Evaluation Alternative (for Central Valley fisheries resources these alternatives are the same) over the No Action Alternative. There would be a much greater incremental reduction in Shasta Reservoir carryover storage between the existing condition and the implementation of the No Action Alternative than between the No Action Alternative and implementation of the Preferred/Flow Evaluation Alternative.

The result would be that in the Central Valley, the implementation of the Preferred/Flow Evaluation Alternative compared to existing conditions would result in impacts on spring chinook salmon as a result of higher water temperatures and increases in egg and fry losses. However, the implementation of the Preferred/Flow Evaluation Alternative would not significantly increase these impacts further when compared to the No Action Alternative.

4162-3

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1-06-00 10:58A

4162-5

4162-5

1-06-00 10:59A

Letter from Jim Smith continued

The commentor asks what the impacts on fishery resources are for the various alternatives from temperature variations in Lewiston Reservoir. The commentor is referred to pages 8 through 13 in Attachment B17: Reservoir Fisheries Evaluation Report found in the Fishery Resources Technical Appendix B. The fishery in Lewiston is almost entirely supported by fish stocked by CDFG. The reservoir will continue to act as a re-regulation reservoir as it does now. Depending on the alternative, there may be more or less thermal stratification occurring in Lewiston Reservoir. However, the coldwater fish that would continue to occupy the reservoir will actively seek the temperature they prefer. If there are more frequent releases from Trinity Reservoir into Lewiston Reservoir, then there would be more cold water and more suitable habitat for Lewiston's fishery. Less frequent releases of cold water from Trinity Reservoir would result in more thermal stratification in Lewiston, resulting in those coldwater fish seeking out that cold water. Either way, the fishery populations in Lewiston would remain relatively unaffected by variations in operations as they are supported by annual stocking by CDFG. Changes in operational releases would not disrupt essential reproductive physiology or behavior, which would then adversely affect the populations of those reservoir species.

Letter from Denver Nelson Dated December 11, 1999

les 11 4163

There are my litest editions of comments of added an administration over head comment and corrected the poor grammer on the previous comments.

Denver Nelson

RECEIVED

DEC 20 1999

US Fish & Wildliff Setting: Arcata, CA

TRINITY RIVER EIS and FLOW STUDY

DENVER NELSON HUMBOLDT COUNTY FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

As you know, the Trinity River was devastated by the Trinity River Diversion project. Many millions of dollars have been spent trying to restore the Trinity River. The Trinity River has not been restored, and, in fact, has continued to decline. Many years of studying the Trinity River has shown that rivers need water to function. No amount of money without water will restore a river.

FISH

Much emphasis has been given to the decline of salmon and steelhead populations in our area. This decrease is well-documented by many studies and by my personal observations as a sport fishermen. Fish numbers are certainly one indicator of the health of our river environments. There are many other factors that influence the health and numbers of the salmonid populations.

A river is more than a natural fish hatchery. We must not over emphasize increasing fish numbers as the ultimate goal of restoring the Trinity River. If there are no fish returning to the Trinity River 20 years from now, does that mean that the entire flow of the Trinity River can then be diverted to the Central Valley? I certainly hope not.

MOVING GRAVEL

The concept of making the Trinity River 1/2 the river it was by giving it 1/2 the natural flow and spending millions to move gravel around is a noble experiment. The outcome of this experiment could be measured by the numbers of fish returning. One could simply assume the goal would be to have 1/2 of the pre-diversion fish return. If 3/4 of the pre-diversion fish

Letter from Denver Nelson continued

Letter from Denver Nelson continued

return, does that mean that 3/4 of the pre-diversion flow would be returned, and additional millions of dollars would have to be spent moving gravel? Or conversely if only 10 percent of the pre-diversion fish return, does that mean that 10 percent of the natural flow comes down the Trinity River, and fish restoration money is sharply cut back?

GREEN PORK

Between 1976 and 1998, \$93,952,547 was spent on Trinity River restoration. During the same time., 648,457 naturally spawning chinook returned to the Trinity River. This amounts to \$144.89 being spent per fish. There appears to be no correlation between dollars spent on restoration and numbers of fish returning to the Trinity River. A much better correlation is seen between river flows and fish returning to the Trinity River. Fish responded better to water than to dollars. It would be better to spend less money on fish restoration and increase the Trinity River flows.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES

I was not able to find a detailed accounting of administrative overhead expenditures for the Trinity River restoration projects. There is an accounting of Klamath restoration funds (Mid-term Evaluation; Klamath River Basin Fisheries Restoration Program, April, 1999) which shows from 1989 to 1997 \$7,968,468 was spent on Klamath River restoration expenditures. Of this total, \$627,103 was spent on planning and coordination and \$3,215,429 was spent on administration; leaving \$4,125,936 spent on restoration projects. This amounts to an administrative overhead of 48% which, to this observer, seems very excessive.

Administrative expenses for Trinity River restoration should be reported in the EIS/EIR and analyzed as a percent of overall expenditures. An on-going accounting of administrative overhead should be mandated. An administrative overhead of 20% or less should be mandated.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY 50,000 ACRE FEET

Humboldt County was given 50,000 acre feet of water annually in the original legislation establishing the Trinity River Diversion. This water allocation has never been accounted for either by increasing the Trinity River flows or by Humboldt County being compensated for our 50,000 acre feet flowing down the Sacramento River. One of the cornerstones of the CalFed process is the sale of water by those with excess water to those who need more water. When the final Trinity River flow is selected, that flow number should be increased by 50,000 acre feet so that we in Humboldt County can use that water to further enhance our fisheries. Conversely, if our 50,000 acre feet is going down the diversion, we should be compensated for our water by the users of that water.

FISH LADDER

The Trinity dam eliminated 109 miles of steelhead and salmon habitat above the dam. The ideal restoration of this habitat would be to remove the dam. The next best restoration would be to install a fish ladder to bypass the dam. Serious consideration has not been given to this option. The fish ladder would be a more cost-effective way of restoring fish habitat.

RIVER FLOW

My preferred flow alternative would be the restoration of the natural Trinity River flows and diverting no more water to the Central Valley. My next best flow would be that promised in the original legislation. The promised diversion originally was to be no more than 30 percent of the Trinity River flow. The Preferred Flow as outlined in this EIS/EIR would be my third choice. The other studied flows are inadequate.

4163-1

No matter which flow is chosen, funding must be available for the bridge and structural removals needed to allow these increased flows.

4163

Letter from Denver Nelson continued

- 4163-1 Please see thematic responses titled "Fisheries."
- 4163-2 Please see thematic response titled "Implementation Funding and Relationship to Repayment, Reimbursement, and the CVPIA Restoration Fund" and Response 5302-3.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Adaptive management is the new buzzword of resource management. In this project, adaptive management should be the prime governing force. If a funded project does not increase the fish returns, the project should not be funded again. If a water flow pattern or volume does not result in increased fish returns, the flow should be changed. At a minimum, the outline of this adaptive management plan should be in place before any other changes are done.

PUBLIC TRUST

In section 1.5 of the EIS the Tribal Trust responsibility is well described. The legal basis for Tribal Trust Responsibility is based on numerous court cases and reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1983 in U.S. vs. Mitchell.

The public trust doctrine is not adequately described or dealt within the EIS. It is mentioned three times. Sections 1.2, 1.7, and 5.1 make reference to the public trust doctrine but there is no tie in to the Trinity River flows.

The public trust doctrine is remarkable both for its age and its vigor. Rooted in the customs of the sea faring Greeks and Romans, it has evolved to become one of the most effective safeguards of public rights. Basically, the trust reflects an understanding of the ancient concept that navigable waters, their beds and their banks, should be enjoyed by all the people because they are too important to be reserved for private use.

From earliest times, societies have recognized the importance of waterways to their people. In Roman times rivers, the sea and its shore were held in common. Any person was at liberty to use the seashore to the highest tide, to dry his nets on the shore and to fasten vessels to the banks. These principles survived in Spanish a law (which once governed California), in the civil law in effect in the continental European countries and in England, where they became incorporated into the Magna Carta.

Letter from Denver Nelson continued

In America, the concept of public rights to public waters was recognized since the early days of the Massachusetts Bay Colony where the Great Pond Ordinance of 1641 guaranteed the right to fish and foul in the ponds greater than 10 acres, along with the freedom to pass-through private property to do so.

By 1821 the American courts were pronouncing the law of public trust as we know it today. In Arnold vs. Mundy, a New Jersey decision, it was held that (1) the British crown had held the beds of navigable waters in trust for the common use of the people; (2) sees rights passed to the people of the respective states after the revolution, and (3) grants purporting to divest the citizens of these common rights were void.

In California, the public trust has constitutional dimensions. Article X, section 4 of the State Constitution guarantees the free navigation of our state's waters. In People Vs. El Dorado County an appellate court invalidated a County ordinance prohibiting rafting on the American River because it denies the constitutional right of the public use and access to a navigable stream."

The protections of the public trust go beyond the tide lands and the major lakes and rivers. Obviously, if the tributaries serving a public trust water are diverted, serious damage can occur. In National Audobon Society Vs. Department of Water and Power, Mono Lake was seriously threatened by diversions from the streams feeding it. The California court held that the state has an affirmative and continuing duty to evaluate the impact of water allocations on trust resources, and to protect the public trust uses whenever feasible.

The public trust doctrine obviously applies to the Trinity River diversion and should be included and given as high a priority as the Tribal Trust Doctrine.

Denver Nelson 5240 Blackberry Eureka, California 95503

Letter from Denver Nelson continued

4163-3 Please see Response 3362-1.

4163-3

41	04	
Dear Secretary of the Interior,		
I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted		
by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please	r *	
read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.		
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he should restore the obligation with	. \ 4164-2	
the Hoopand Kurok Tribes.	, 5 1101 2	
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Sincerety, Ch. 10 11		
JAN 1 2 2006	i	
US Eish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA		

Letter from Illegible Signature

- Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.
- 4164-2 Regarding tribal trust, please see thematic response titled "Tribal Trust"

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

Thy most sex major concern heals with our government, exceedly as a world leader.

As broken from with not only the 4165-1

natives of lawrica, but lear also contributed to the demise of lawrican industry. You finding this put I am very historiught as to have we are who we propers to be could allow this to happen. I understood secremics but in this case, we have socrified a great deal of our swom integrity and this sir, is not what would leading hy example is about.

BECEFFEE

JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA

Letter from Illegible Signature

4165-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see the matic response titled "Tribal Trust."

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

Hear Siror Madam,

It seems to me that you have an obligations
to uphold The Trinity River Act of 1955!

Not only have you broken a trust with the,
Hospa Valley and Yurok Tribes you have
broken a trust with others who would tike to enjoy fishing and recreation.

Along this rivers shore.

Thease consider restoring
the once bountiful river back to
its beautiful raging along. Generations to

come works will thank you.

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2000

Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA

Letter from Illegible Signature

- 4166-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see thematic response titled "Tribal Trust."
- Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

12/4/99

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

THE TRINITY RIVER ACT OF 1955 HAS NOT UPHFLD ITS SIDE OF THE ACT. THE FISH AND WILDLIFE IN THE BASIN ARE BEING SEVERLY HARMED. THE FLOW OF THE RIVER SHOULD AND NEEDS TO BE INCREASED.	4167-1

RECEIVER

JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA BETH EVANCO

Letter from Beth Evanco Dated December 4, 1999

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4168-1

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

This is a repine problem that has been ignored
for far too long. It is a shame on the governments
post that the Trinty first has been disprograpoled
for all there years. Please you are the only
one who can make a difference and pectify
this proplem
this problem.

Sincerely,

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JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA

Letter from L. Williams

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4169-1

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

I Feel	Strongly	abou	ut up	holdin	<u>our</u>
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US Fish & Wildlife Service
Arcata, CA

Letter from Illegible Signature

4169-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see the matic response titled "Tribal Trust." 4170

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

The federal government
should fulfill its regully
mandated responsibilities > 4170-1
to the Hoops Valley and
Junok Tailes
When the Trinity is restored,
the commercial and sport fishing,
of the mothern Colefornia and
Southern Oregon will rebound,

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JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service: Arcata, CA **Letter from Dorothy Smond**

- 4170-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see the matic response titled "Tribal Trust."
- Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4171

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

Trust abligations to two Nature

American Tribes has gone unfulfilled.

Afore Time has come for us to

fulfill this legally mandated

sesponsibilities to Hoopa & Yorok

Tribes.

Also if Trinity is restored,

the Combridal & sport fishing, rafting

and tourism economies of Northern

California & Southern Osegon will

rebound

a restored Trinity Riverswill

allow Californians to have faith

in the origing CALFED megaliations.

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JAN 12 2000

US Fish & Wildlife Service: Arcata, CA

Letter from Nanette Wier

4171-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see thematic response titled "Tribal Trust."

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4171-1

\ 4171-2

4172

Dear Secretary of the Interior,

I am concerned about the Trinity River and the water that has been diverted by the Central Valley Water Project. Here are some of my concerns. Can you please read these and add them to the (EIS/R). Thank you for your time.

The Trinity River Act of 1955, specifically mandated that the Fish & wildlift in the Basin Were protected However since 1963 the water diversion of the Teinity River has led to nextly a 90% decline in the bishesien (as of the early 1990s) As a California Citizen, I would like my state to fulfill the Federal Governments that obligations to the Nahre. American Hospa Valley & Yurok Thise. As Automen who has fished the Teinity. I want to see he kebound of the commercial & Sport Fishing, rassing & tomism economies due to a restored Thinky River flow. I would like this as amother example of the benifity of River Restoration to be wheld as a National Standard.

REGEREE

JAN 12 2000 US Fish & Wildlife Service Arcata, CA Saw Diego, CM. 92107

Letter from Colleen M. Ohlandt

4172-1 Regarding tribal trust, please see thematic response titled "Tribal Trust."

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. No response is required.

4172-1

4172-2



RNOR

4173

Loretta Lynch

December 21, 1999

Tom Stokely TRINITY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT P.O. Box 156 Hayfork, CA 96041-0156

Subject: TRINITY RIVER MAINSTEM FISHERY RESTORATION SCH#: 94123009

Dear Tom Stokely:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Joint Document to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on December 20, 1999, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's eight-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

cc: Resources Agency

Terry Roberts
Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse

RECEPTED

JAN 12 2000

JS Fish & Wildlife Service
Arcata, CA

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044 916-449-0613 FAX 916-323-3018 WWW.OPR.CA.GOV/CLEARINGHOUSE.HTML

Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Dated December 21, 1999

RDD/TRINITY4145-4173.DOC

D3-1719

Document Details Report State Clearinghouse Data Base SCH# 94123009 Project Title TRINITY RIVER MAINSTEM FISHERY RESTORATION Lead Agency Trinity County Type jd Joint Document Description Restoration of the natural production of anadromous fish on the Trinity River mainstern downstream of Lewiston Dam through managed flows combined with mechanical rehabilitation projects Lead Agency Contact Name Tom Stokely Agency TRINITY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT 530-628-5949 Address P.O. Box 156 Zio. 96041-0156 City Hayfork Project Location County TRINITY City Lewiston, Junction City Region Cross Streets Parcel No. Township Section Proximity to: Highways 299 Airports Reliways Trinity River, Lewiston Reservoir & Trinity Lake Waterways Schools Land Use Open Space / Flood Hazard Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Drainage/Absorption; Economics/Jobs; Fiscal Impacts; Flood Plain/Flooding; Geologic/Seismic; Recreation/Parks; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wikitie; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects Resources Agency; Department of Boating and Waterways; Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Game, Region 1; Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Cathrans, District 2; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 1; Native American Heritage Commission; State Lands Commission Date Received 10/22/1999 Start of Review 10/22/1999 End of Review 12/20/1999 Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by feed agency.

Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued

The Resources Agency of California Orandum November 9, 1999 Mosie Boyd State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Mike Sotelo SCH#94123009 Trinity River Mainstein Fishery Restorate STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

We have reviewed the above referenced EIR/S, pertaining to the restoration of the natural production of anadromous fish on the Trinity River mainstem downstream of Lewiston Dam through managed flows combined with mechanical rehabilitation projects, and we have the following comments to offer:

As proposed mitigation to minimize the impact on recreational boating (as noted in the Executive Summary, Table ES-4, under the heading, "Recreation"), the report indicates that signs will be posted at river access points when flows are outside the preferred range for boating. The signs will also be offering a toll-free telephone number so recreationists can call to obtain daily flow information.

If waterway markers are to be posted to warn or advise boaters of low or high flows, etc., the applicant should receive a copy of the state's waterways marking system regulations, i.e., Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 700, et seq. (copy enclosed), to be aware of requirements to place waterways markers.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please call me at (916) 263-0787

While Soll

Make Sotelo Environmental Review/Regulations

PICONIMON/DAVIDUCHINSONATRINETY RIVER EIR DOCNOMINES 9, 1999 (1:297%)

Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued

Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted. If waterway markers are to be posted to warn or advise boaters of low or high flows, etc., the applicable co-lead agency should request a copy of the state's waterways marking system regulations, i.e., Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 700, et. seq., and be aware of requirements to place waterways markers.

4173-1

4173-1

TITLE 14 DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

6695. Searchlights or Other Blinding Lights.

(a) Except for law enforcement or search and rescue activities, flashing a searchlight or other blinding light onto the bridge or onto the pilothouse of any vessel underway is prohibited.

(b) All floodlights or headlights which may interfere with the proper navigation of an approaching vessel shall be so shielded that the lights will not blind the pilot of such vessel.

NOTE: Authority cited; Section 655.3, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Section 655.3, Harbors and Navigation Code.

6697. Prima-Facie Evidence of Negligent Operation.

Parsuant to the provisions of Seption 655 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, the following described dcts endanger life, limb or property and constitute evidence of reckless or negligent operation:

constitute evidence of reckless or negligent operation:

(a) Riding on the bow, ginnwale or transour of a vessel propelled by machinery underway when such position is not protected by railing or other reasonable deterrent to falling overboard, or riding in a position of manner which is obviously dingerous. These provisions shall not apply to a vessel's crewmen in the ad of anchoring, mooring or making fast to a dock or another vessel, of the necessary management of a sail.

(b) Management of the control of the

(b) Maneuvering towed skiers, or other devices, so as to pass the towline over another vessel or its skier.

(c) Navigating a vessel, skis or other devices between a towing vessel and its tow or tows.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 655, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650, 655 and 655.3, Harbors and Navigation Code.

Article 6. Waterway Marking System

7000. Scope.

Pursuant to the authority vested in it by Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code, the Department adopts rules and regulations for a uniform system for marking the State's waters; such rules and regulations to establish, (a) a system of regulatory markers for use on all waters of the State to meet needs not provided for by the U.S. Coast Guard system of navigational aids, and (b) a system of navigational aids for use on the waters of the State not marked by the U.S. Coast Guard and/or not determined to be United States navigable waters; provided that such rules and regulations shall not be in conflict with the markings prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7001. Definition (as used in this article).

(a) Waterway marker is any device designed to be placed in, on or near the water to convey an official message to a boat operator on matters which

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may affect health, safety, or well being, except that such devices of the United States or an agency of the United States are excluded from the meaning of this definition.

- (b) Regulatory Marker is a waterway marker which has no equivalent in the U.S. Coast Guard system of navigational aids.
- (c) State Aid to Navigation is a waterway marker which is the equivalent of a U.S. Coast Guard aid to navigation.
- (d) Buoy is any device designed to float which is anchored in the water and which is used to convey a message.
- (e) Sign is any device for carrying a message which is attached to another object such as a piling, buoy, structure or the land itself.
- (f) A Display Area is the area on a sign or buoy needed for display of a waterway marker symbol.
- (g) Symbols are geometric figures such as a diamond, circle, rectangle, used to convey a basic message.
- (h) "Department" means the Department of Boating and Waterways. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7602. Waterway Markers Used on the Waters of This State Shall Be As Follows.

- (a) State Aids to Navigation.
- (1) A red booy or sign shall indicate that side of a channel to be kept to the right of a vessel when entering the channel from the main water body or when proceeding upstream; a green buoy or sign shall indicate that side of a channel to be kept to the left of a vessel when entering the channel from the main water body or when proceeding upstream.
- These buoys or signs shall normally be used in pairs and only for the purpose of marking a clearly defined channel.
- (2) A red and white vertically striped buoy or sign shall indicate the center of a navigable waterway.
- (3) A red and green horizontally striped buoy or, sign shall indicate a junction in the channel, or a wreck or obstruction which may be passed on either side. If the top band is red, the preferred channel is to the left when proceeding upstream or leaving the main water body. If the top band is green the preferred channel is to the right when proceeding upstream or leaving the main water body.
- (4) White buoys shall indicate anchorage areas.
- (5) The shapes of state aids to navigation shall be compatible with the shapes established by Coast Guard regulations for the equivalent Coast Guard aids to navigation.
- (6) When lights are placed on buoys as an aid to navigation, their characteristics shall be compatible with those designated by Federal Regu-

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lations for federal aids to navigation. Red lights for this purpose shall be used only on red buoys and green lights only on green buoys.

- (b) Regulatory Markers.
- (1) A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall indicate danger. The nature of the danger may be indicated by words or well-known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above and/or below it on white background.
- (2) A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of the same color within it against a white center without qualifying explanation shall indicate a zone from which all vessels are excluded.
- (3) A circle of international orange with white center will indicate a control or restriction. The nature of the control or restriction shall be indicated by words, numerals, and/or well-known abbreviations in black letters inside the circle. Additional explanation may be given above and/or below it in black letters on white background.
- (4) A rectangular shape of international orange with white center will indicate information, other than a danger, control or restriction, which may contribute to health, safety or well-being. The message will be presented within the rectangle in black letters.
- (c) Letters or Numbers on Waterway Markers.
- (1) Numbers, letters or words on a state aid to navigation or regulatory marker shall be placed in a manner to enable them to be clearly visible to an approaching or passing vessel. They shall be block style, well proportioned and as large as the available space permits. Numbers and letters on red or black backgrounds shall be white; numbers and letters on white backgrounds shall be black.
- (2) State aids to navigation shall be numbered or lettered for identification. Red buoys and signs marking channels shall be identified with even numbers, and green buoys and signs marking channels shall be identified with odd numbers, the numbers increasing from the main water body or proceeding upstream. Buoys and signs indicating the center of a waterway or a channel junction shall be identified by letters of the alphabet. All numbers and letters used to identify state aids to navigation shall be preceded by the letters "CF."
- (d) Reflectorized Material. Where reflectorized materials are used, a red reflector will be used on a red buoy, a green reflector on a green buoy, and white reflectors only will be used on all other waterway markers, except that orange reflectors may be used on orange portions of regulatory markers, and yellow reflectors may be used on Special Markers, as defined in Section 7002.1.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

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Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued

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7002.1. Special Markers.

Special markers are not primarily intended to assist navigation, but are used to indicate a special area or feature (i.e., traffic separation, anchorage areas, dredging, fish net areas, etc.) whose nature may be apparent from reference to a chart or other nautical document.

(a) Aids used to mark these areas or systems will be all yellow. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650, 655.3, and 659; Harbors and Navigation Code.

7003. Authority to Place Markers.

(a) No waterway marker shall be placed on, in, or near the waters of the State unless such placement is authorized by the agency or political subdivision of the State having power to give such authorization, except that the provisions of this section shall not apply to private aids to navigation under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard.

(b) Such agency or political subdivision of the State will, prior to authorizing placement, obtain the necessary clearances of any federal and state agencies concerned. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to require such prior clearance with the Department.

(c) The agency or political subdivision of the State authorizing the placement of a waterway marker will inform the Department of the

(1) Exact location of the marker, expressed in latitude and longitude, or in distance and direction from one or more fixed objects whose precise location

(2) The description and purpose of the marker, including its identifying number, if any, as required by Section 7002(a)(5), above.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7004. Maintenance of Waterway Markers.

Waterway markers shall be maintained in proper condition, or be replaced or removed.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7005. Display of Waterway Markers.

(a) A waterway marker may be displayed as a sign on a fixed support, as a buoy bearing a symbol on its surface, or as a sign mounted on a buoy.

(b) When a buoy is used to carry a symbol on its surface, it will be white, with a band of international orange at the top and a hand of international orange above the water line at the bottom.

(c) A buoy whose sole purpose is to carry a sign above it will be marked with three bands of international orange alternating with two bands of white, each band occupying approximately one-fifth of the total area of the buoy

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above the water line, except where the sign itself carries orange bands; however, nothing in these regulations will be construed to prohibit the mounting of a sign on a buoy which has been placed for a purpose other than that of carrying a sign.

(d) When symbols are placed on signs, a suitable white background may be used outside the symbol.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7006. Specifications for Waterway Markers.

(a) The size, shape, material, and construction of all markers, both fixed and floating, shall be such as to be observable under normal conditions of visibility at a distance such that the significance of the marker or aid will be recognizable in time to avoid danger.

(b) Waterway markers shall be made of materials which will retain, despite weather and other exposures, the characteristics essential to their basic significance, such as color, shape, legibility and position.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7007. Other Waterway Marking Devices.

(a) Mooring Buoys. In order that mooring buoys shall not be mistaken for aids to navigation or regulatory markers, they shall be white, with a blue band clearly visible above the waterline.

(b) Placement of markers such as mooring buoys and permanent race course markers will be processed in the same manner as waterway markers.

(c) Such markers shall not be of a color, shape, configuration or marking which could result in their confusion with any federal or state aid to navigation or any state regulatory marker, and shall not be placed where they will obstruct navigation, cause confusion, or constitute a hazard.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7008. The Divers Flag.

(a) A red flag with a white diagonal running from the upper left hand corner to the lower right hand corner (from masthead to lower outside corner) and known as the "Divers Flag" shall when displayed on the water, indicate the presence of a person engaged in diving in the water in the immediate area.

(b) Recognition of this flag by regulation will not be construed as conferring any rights or privileges on its users, and its presence in a water area will not be construed in itself as restricting the use of the water area so

(c) Operators of vessels will, however, exercise precaution commensurate with conditions indicated.

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- (d) This flag may be displayed only when diving is in progress, and its display in a water area when no diving is in progress is that area will constitute a violation of the regulation and of section 659 of the Harbors and Navioation Code.
- (e) Nothing in this section will require the carriage of a divers flag for any

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650, and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

7009. The Ski Flag.

- (a) A red or orange flag measuring no less than 12 inches on each side, in the shape of a square or rectangle, mounted or displayed in such a manner as to be visible from every direction shall be known as a ski flag.
- (b) The use of this flag will not be construed as conferring any rights or privileges on its users, and its display will not be construed in itself as restricting the use of the water in the vicinity of the vessel displaying the flag.
- (c) Operators of vessels will, however, exercise precaution commensurate with conditions indicated.
- (d) The ski flag shall be displayed when one or more of the following conditions exists:
- (1) A downed skier.
- (2) A skier in the water preparing to ski.(3) A ski line extended from the vessel.
- (4) A ski in the water in the vicinity of the vessel.
- (4) A ski in the water in the vicinity of the vessel. The ski flag shall not be displayed at any other time.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 652, 658, 658,7 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Sections 650, 655.3, 658.7 and 659, Harbors and Navigation Code.

Article 7. For Hire Vessel Operator's License

7500. Definitions.

- (a) As used in Article 2, (commencing with Section 760) Chapter 5 of Division 3, Harbots, and Navigation Code, the terms "carrying more than three passengers for hire" and "carrying passengers for hire" mean the carriage of more than three persons by a vessel for a valuable consideration, whether directly or indirectly flowing to the owner, charterer, operator, agent or any other person interested in the vessel.
- (b) "Passenger" means every person, other than the master and a member of the crew or other persons employed or engaged in any capacity on board a vessel in the business of that vessel.
- (c) "Department" means the Department of Boating and Waterways. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 770, Harbors and Navigation Code. Reference: Section 760, Harbors and Navigation Code.

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Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued

The waters of the United States are marked for safe navigation by the lateral system of buoyage. The system employs a simple arrangement of colors, shapes, numbers, and light characteristics to show the side on which a buoy should be passed when proceeding in a given direction. The characteristics are determined by the position of the buoy with respect to the navigable channels as the channels are antared from severed.

-hand buoys are painted red, with red fixed or flashing lights. t buoys, also called midchannel or fairway buoys, and buoys are painted with red and white vertical stripes, with

The expression "red right returning" has long been used by the seafarer as reminder that the red buoys are kept to the starboard (right) side when proceeding from the open sea into port (upstream). Likewise, green buoys ar kept to the port (left) side, (see page 8), Conversely, when proceeding toward the sea or fewing port, red buoys are kept to port side and green buoys to the attaboardside. Redbuoysareahways eventrumbered, Creenbuoysareadhambered. Red and white vertically stripted buoys mark the center of the channel.

Uniform State Waterway Marking System

Most waterways used by boaters are tocated entirely within the boundaries of the state. The California Uniform State Waterway Marking System has been devised for these waters. Examples of such aids are found on page 7.

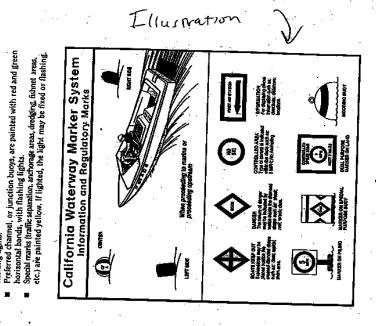
he waterway marking system, employs buoys and signs with distinanderd shapes to show regulatory or advisory information. These may e white with black letters and have orange borders. They signify it with black danges, danger areas, and general information.

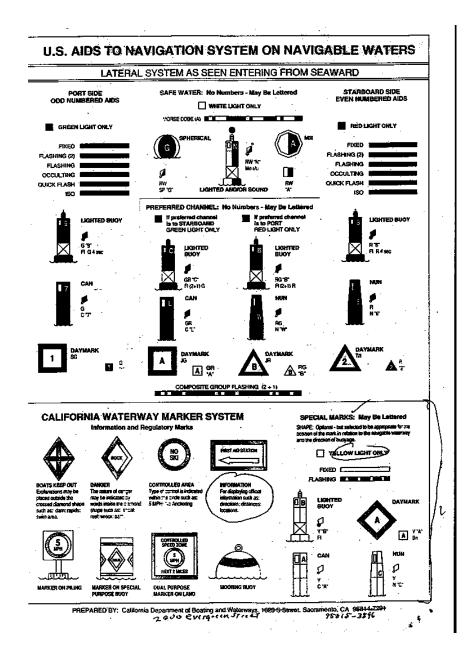
Aids to navigation on state waters use red and green buoys to mark channel limits. Red and green buoys are generally used in pairs. The boat should pass between the red buoy and its companion green buoy.

Mooring to Budys

Tying up to or hanging on to any navigation budy (except a mooring budy) or bearon is prohibited.

or beacon is prohibited.
Aids to Novigation
In recent years, modifications to certain aids to navigation located on coasts and inland waters have been completed. These changes apply to charts which follow.)





DOC-DGER > 916 323 3018 State of California The Resources Agency MEMORANDUM To: **Project Coordinator** Date: December 6, 1999 Resources Agency Mr. Tom Stokely . Trinity County Planning Department P.O. Box 156 Hayfork, CA 96041-0156 Department of Conservation Office of Governmental and Environmental Relations Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement (DEIR) for the Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Project - SCH# 94123009

Division administers several agricultural land conservation programs, including the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program (ALSP). We offer the following comments on the project's agricultural land impacts for your consideration.

The DEIR has identified significant environmental impacts of the project on agricultural land resources. In particular, the diversion of water for fishery restoration will result in the loss of 7.5 percent of the birth birth.

The California Department of Conservation's Division of Land Resource Protection (Division) has reviewed the DEIR for the referenced restoration project. The

agricultural land resources. In particular, the diversion of water for fishery restoration will result in the loss of 7.5 percent of the highly productive agricultural lands of the Central Valley Project's San Felipe Unit. The DEIR does not offer apparent mitigation of this impact. Therefore, we recommend that the final EIR include a discussion of feasible mitigation measures that would lessen the significance of the project's impact on agricultural land.

Among the mitigation measures that should be explored are: 1) the enhancement of the Unit's remaining irrigated farmland by providing greater water availability and certainty; and, 2) compensation for the loss of irrigated farmland by the purchase of conservation easements on other irrigated farmland of equivalent quality and quantity. The latter approach to farmland mitigation is being used by agencies at state and local levels of government, and has been highlighted by a recent unpublished count decision in Orange County (El Toro Land Use Planning Authority, et al. v. County of Orange, et al., San Diego Superior Court # 710123, October 28, 1997). If the acquisition of conservation easements is proposed as a mitigation measure, lands CVP-wide should be considered for easement purchase, not strictly lands within the San Felipe Unit. Also, the Division's ALSP program may serve as a mitigation bank wherein mitigation funds can be deposited for subsequent use in acquiring easements as designated by the

Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued

4173-2 Please see thematic response titled "Mitigation for Significant Impacts."

RDD/TRINITY4145-4173.DOC D3-1730

4173-2

Mr. Tom Stokely December 6, 1999 Page 2 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project's DEIR. If you have questions on our comments, or require technical assistance or information on agricultural land conservation, please contact the Division at 801 K Street, MS 13-71, Sacramento, CA 95814; phone, (916) 324-0850. Assistant Director Cc: Luree Statson, Assistant Director Division of Land Resource Protection Trinity County Resource Conservation District P.O. Box 1450 Weaverville, CA 96093 San Benito Resource Conservation District 2377 Technology Parkway, #C Hollister, CA 95023

Letter from State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, continued