

- Data submitted about the Thermal Curtain indicate that the most effective installation could provide about 1° Centigrade temperature reduction in the downstream reaches in July and August only in a normal or wet year (roughly 50% of the past 33 years studied). It will also result in reduced cold water fish habitat in Lake Almanor and reduced fish production in Butt Valley Reservoir.
- **We cannot support any additional withdrawal of cold water from Lake Almanor.**
 - Dissolved Oxygen of less than 5mg/liter occurs at Canyon Dam from early August through mid-October, according to sampling results. Since this is the deepest part of the lake, it is reasonable to assume that most of the lake, which is more shallow and less cold water has less dissolved oxygen. Any alternative that requires additional cold water to be withdrawn from the lake will negatively impact the fishery in the lake.
- **Further warming of the lake's waters will accelerate the growth and maintenance of high algae levels.** An article in the Chico Enterprise Record, dated June 17, 2005 cited:

"A Chico State University professor is predicting algae in the Magalia Reservoir will continue to thrive through the summer. Chemicals released from the algae are the root of recent smell and taste complaints from some Paradise Irrigation District customers, although district officials say the water is safe to drink. Gina Johnston, a professor of environmental sciences at Chico State University, said clear, warm waters and the shallow level of the Magalia Reservoir should keep the algae population high."

The same scenario exists at Lake Almanor—it is a shallow lake with warmer waters, if additional cold water is withdrawn—and we already have algae blooms in the causeway area of the lake and close to Bailey Creek during the summer as the temperature warms.

- **Opposition to the possible relocation of fish from other locales to the Project Area, including the Belden and Seneca Reaches.**
 - What assurances are there that diseased fish will not be transported along with others? There is a very substantial risk that this kind of control cannot be satisfactorily exercised and that the upper reaches in the project and the lake will suffer adverse affects.
- **A request for a review of the designation of the North Fork as a cold water stream and habitat.**
 - This is being done for many reasons that you have heard in our 2105 LG meeting, Sharon. Perhaps the most obvious reason to review the Plan is that Lake Almanor is designated as a warm/cold water habitat in the Basin Plan and the North Fork, where the waters from the lake drain, is a cold water habitat.....how does water from a warm/cold water habitat drain into a cold water habitat and turn cold?

Thank you for your attention to my comments.

Sincerely,



Aaron Seandel

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STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD

September 28, 2005

2005 SEP 30 PM 2: 31

Ms. Sharon Stohrer
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
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DIV OF WATER RIGHTS
SACRAMENTO

Hello, Sharon

I am forwarding a copy of my presentation at the Scoping meeting. There are also additional comments that I did not have time to present on the 27th.

Thanks.

Aaron

Presentation to CEQA Scoping Session September 27, 2005

Chester, California

My name is Aaron Seandel. My wife, Dana, and I have lived in the Lake Almanor Basin full time since 1994, and prior to that, six months of every year since 1988, and before that, vacationing in this beautiful area since 1972. I have been chair of the Plumas County sub committee on Water Quality for nine years, and also been an ongoing member of the Plumas County 2105 committee, assisting with the development of recommendations for the new license for FERC Project 2105.

I am committed to maintain and improve the condition and beauty of Lake Almanor, and offer the following points in support of this goal.

- **Maintaining a pro-active water quality monitoring program.**
 - This is one where sampling activities are regular and frequent to help identify and resolve problems and issues before they become major threats to the ecology of the body. The Plumas County Lake Sampling Program, in conjunction with DWR, is done on an annual basis. This is important as the Almanor Basin continues to grow at a rapid rate, as more people come to live here, more amenities such as golf courses and marinas are developed, and tourism becomes the major industry in the County.
- **Installation of Thermal Curtain at the Prattville Intake will displace 42,000 cubic yards of silt and soil from the floor of the lake.**
 - This is a ground disturbing activity that will have a negative impact on the beauty and clarity of the Lake. The natural beauty of the Lake is an attraction for visitors and potential residents, and is the major factor in the emergence of the Almanor Basin into a major tourist destination.
- **There are will be damaging effects of the runoff from this spoil pile, which will be adjacent to the shoreline, affecting the quality and clarity of the lake.**
- **Construction of the Thermal Curtain would involve the use of many hazardous materials, including paint, oil, grease that, if not stored properly or are released due to an accident or faulty workmanship, will have a permanent impact on the clarity and quality of the lake.**
- **The relationship of the excessive cost of three Thermal Curtains versus the possibility of achieving the stated goal exceeds any definition of a "reasonable" solution.**
 - The latest estimate of cost to install three curtains (one in Lake Almanor and two in Butt Valley) is more than fifty million dollars, a debt that will be the responsibility of the ratepayers to retire.

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