L-32

3921 Dawn Drive
Loomis, CA 95650
October 26, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources
2031 Howe Avenue, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A The most gratifying and important aspect of the American River Pump Station Project is the restoration of the American River to its natural channel AND the PERMANENT, irreversible closing of the tunnel. If the restoration were all that happened, I'd be satisfied.

B However, I am concerned about two "negative" impacts that will occur with the construction of the pumps. One negative impact deals with the need to justify the pumps because of the increase in Placer County's population and subsequent water needs. Which comes first? Without the pumps, wouldn't we have little or no population increases? (I'd vote for that rather than what we currently have on the books with regard to Placer County's horrendous sprawl over the next twenty years.)

When the growth exceeds the pumps capacity to serve the area, will more pumps be built? Will the flows of the American River be reduced? Or will precious ground water be tapped? I urge more study regarding the serious negative long-range impacts of any pump stations.

C The other negative impact is the visual blight that the pumps will be to the river (especially if it is restored, replanted, and returned to its natural appearance). No pumps should be visible if the river is truly "restored."

Pump station or not, I urge you to proceed with the restoration of the natural channel and keep this aspect of the project as the highest priority.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Jasper

Marilyn Jasper

A. Project support noted.

B. Please refer to Response L-21.A.

C. Visually the project study area is considered substantially degraded when compared to the appearance of river reaches upstream and downstream of the Auburn Dam construction area. Although the Proposed Project features would be visible to recreationists at the canyon floor, along portions of the recreation trails, and at glimpses from homes adjacent to the ridge top in Auburn, the overall influence of the Proposed Project upon the study area viewshed would be considered beneficial due to restoration of river flows to the channel. The appearance of the river channel would be enhanced by creation of features that are found in natural streams, such as pools, riffles, and variations in the channel cross section. The design process for the river restoration element includes reference to photographs and other historic information (prior to Auburn Dam) to aid in the hydraulic and visual re-connection of the currently dewatered segment with upstream and downstream reaches of the river. Additionally, the design of other project elements, such as tunnel closure, river access facilities, and pump station housing, would be such that the project features blend with the surrounding area and do not introduce other sources of glare or other visual distractions. The pump house would be constructed of a neutral tone split-face block. River access features would be minimal and "rustic," similar to those at other locations within the Auburn SRA.

L-33

Placer County Water Agency

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR — BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

COMMENT CARD
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

NAME:	IRV Mazur
ADDRESS:	26889 Table Meadow Rd.
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	Auburn, Ca 95602
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	530-269-3018 / FAX 269-3017
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	Gold Country Trails Council

COMMENTS:

A My wife & I moved here from the bay area with our (3) Three horses primarily because of the extensive Trails systems in Placer & Nevada County's. If The Coffer dam Trails are lost, The "Best Trail" in the entire area will be lost!! Horse people in general spend a lot of money on our animals & feed Trailers & Trucks, Gasoline, Insurance etc. If this & other trails are taken from us, I'm sure that there are other states in these United states that would want our money & support.

Please make the Coffer Dam trail available to us!!

Thank you

Sincerely,

PLEASE USE THIS TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT THE DRAFT EIS/EIR. YOU CAN SEND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO:
DRAFT EIS/EIR COMMENTS, SURFACE WATER RESOURCES, INC., 2031 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 110, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
JUST FOLD THIS SELF-ADDRESSED SHEET INTO THIRDS, SEAL, STAMP, AND MAIL. THANK YOU.

☑ ***Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.***

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-34

To whom it may concern, As a kayaker and rafter who has spent many days boating the various forks of the American river, I am writing to give my approval of the preferred alternative. The preferred alternative, by removing the Auburn Dam by-pass tunnel, will restore the North Fork American river to its natural channel in the canyon below Auburn. This will be beneficial to fish and wildlife and will enhance public access + recreation downstream of the North Middle Fork Confluence. One other point is I would like to see replacement of the land bridge on the popular Auburn to Cool Trail, Sincerely, Jim Overton

A

B

Jim Overton
8903 NE 144th Pl
Bothell, WA 98011-5140

N.W.F.

EVERETT, WA 98202

L-34

American River Pump Station Project,
Draft EIS/EIR Comments,
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue, Suite 110
Sacramento CA 95825.

95825+1927

A. Project support noted.

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-35

28 October 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 How Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

Ref: Draft EIS/EIR Comments

I understand that current plans for the river restoration and pump station project do not include preservation of the Auburn-to-Cool trail. I also understand that a simple bridge could solve the problem. I strongly oppose any plan that does not include preserving access to this multi-use recreational asset for several reasons.

A

1. TRAIL NETWORK. The Coffer Dam site is an intersection for connecting several major regional trails (Western States trail, Olmstead trail, and Maidu trail). Eliminating access to these trails forfeits a significant recreational opportunity that cannot be duplicated elsewhere.
2. USER SAFETY. These trails are multi-use assets for hikers, equestrians, runners, etc. Diverting all these users to the remaining narrower trails will create overcrowding and dangerous conditions for everyone.
3. TRAINING SITES. The canyons and hills along these trails have been established as training grounds for international caliber athletes and equestrians. Major competitive events have traditionally trained and competed on these trails.
4. COOL ACCESS. Mountain bikers have only the Auburn-to-Cool trail for accessing the Cool area trails.
5. VOLUNTEER PATROL. The mounted unit that currently patrols the Coffer Dam area will no longer have access to horse friendly trails. Paved roads and piled river rock will discourage community service and degrade safety and usability of the recreational areas.

In summary, I wish to emphasize that I am in favor of preserving and restoring the river. I am equally in favor of preserving and restoring the recreational opportunities in the area. One does not have to be sacrificed for the other.

The PCWA project needs to support all canyon user groups. It also needs to recognize the economic value of retaining attractive recreational and athletic competitions in the region.

Lucy Badenhoop

Lucy Badenhoop

7728 Bellingrath Drive
Elverta, CA 95626
(916) 991-7040

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-36

16983 Grovenor Drive
Castro Valley, CA 94546
October 28, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

To Whom It May Concern:

A I am writing to decry the loss of the trail from Auburn to Cool because of your river restoration and pump station project. What a sad thing it would be to lose this beautiful, historic, and much-used trail! And it doesn't have to happen! It seems that the easy solution is to build a bridge at the appropriate crossing place and build a dirt trail alongside the road. I'm sure that with a little good-will advertising you could get members of the hiking/biking/riding public to help with the construction. Now is the time to do it!

Sincerely,

William L. Coburn

William L. Coburn

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-37

Oct 29, 2001
120 Awali Ave
Auburn, CA. 95603

Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Ave, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA. 95825

Re: American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments

The issues involved with construction of the Pump Station and restoration of the riverbed are sufficiently covered. However, the EIS does not sufficiently cover the environmental impacts that will be generated by the recreation facilities. The proposed Pump Station will essentially replace the original one; and plugging of the river bypass will simply return the river to its original course. **But the construction of parking areas, roads, trails and related facilities for recreational use are new features.**

The public health and safety aspects related to these facilities have not been addressed, except to acknowledge that these issues would be incorporated in a future Auburn State Recreation Area plan. **How can this EIS be considered adequate, when it leaves the effect of these facilities to be determined at a future date ?? This should be done prior to construction – not afterwards !!**

A **The increased fire risk associated with the proposed recreation facilities is the predominate public safety issue;** and it deserves more that the passing remark on page 36 in the EIS Executive Summary. What measures will be taken to prevent or reduce the likelihood of fire in the canyon ? Since these facilities are included in the Pump Station Project, the resulting environmental impacts should also be fully addressed in the EIS.

B Besides the fire risk, some of the other factors that need attention include the effect of traffic through the residential area; type and size of vehicles to be permitted on the access roads; type of use to be allowed on the trails (ie. horseback, motorized bikes, etc.); and more detail on the "afternoon boating" referred to on page 2-25 of the EIS.

C Does this include jet skis, motor boats and water skiing? How will the proposed recreational use affect the water quality in the American River?

D Unless these subjects are covered, the EIS statement on page 36 - that there will be no cumulative impacts to the public health and safety issues - is in error.

Bill G. Grant

Bill G. Grant

Cc; PCWA – Brent Smith
Auburn Fire Safe Council

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.9, Fire Management.

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.6, Public River Access Features.

C. Increased recreational use in the project area would have minimal impact on water quality since only non-motorized watercraft would be permitted on this stretch of the North Fork American River.

D. Please refer to Responses L-37.A, L-37.B, and L-37.C.

L-38

October 29, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

For your attention please:

A

I am a resident of El Dorado County. My family, friends, and I and ride our horses on the Cool-to-Auburn trail on a regular basis. We have enjoyed the recreation these trails have to offer from horseback for many years now. We would feel a great loss if were unable to ride to Auburn and use the connecting trails.

If we have to loose the Coffer Dam trail, we ask that there would be an appropriate safe horse-friendly bridge be put there. We must tell you that the sole use of the Western States Trail "no-hands" bridge is not an optional use. This bridge and connecting trails are not safe for horses.

PLEASE help us. We love these trails and do want to have them available to us and our children in the future.

Sincerely,

Bonnie K. Borovich
P.O. Box 114
Garden Valley, CA 95633

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-39

October 30, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95825

Gentlemen:

A

I am writing in regard to the Coffer Dam area trails that are in grave danger of being lost to much-needed recreational uses with the closing of the diversion tunnel on the American River. I am a life-long trail rider and member of the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Assn., the Mother Lode Arabian Horse Assn., and the Gold Country Endurance Riders.

For equestrians and residents of the Auburn side of the river, access to safe trails that cross the American River and lead to the network of trails in the Cool area is very important. If only one trail remains for hikers, horseback riders, and bicyclists alike, and that trail crosses No Hands Bridge, it will be much too crowded to be safe for all concerned. We would be forced to trailer our horses to Cool along Hwy. 49, which is already clogged with traffic and slow-moving vehicles.

While I am delighted with the prospect of returning the American River to its natural course, I regret that this will inevitably result in the loss of some trails. However, if a bridge across the river were included in your plans, optimal and safe use of this much-used and beloved scenic recreational area will be realized.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda Romander

LINDA L. ROMANDER
9168 King Road
Loomis, CA 95650
916/652-2327

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-40

Barbara Rush
P O Box 748
Newcastle, California 95658

(916) 663-1896

October 30, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, California 95825

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in regard to the impact of the river restoration and pump station project.

A As you are aware, the Auburn area is one of the most highly sought areas in California for hiking, horseback riding and mountain bike riding. The fact that PCWA is even considering not putting in a bridge to allow the continuation of these activities is unthinkable.

I ask that you at least consider the value this bridge will have in the future for all runners, equestrians and mountain bikers alike.

Thank you.

Barbara Rush

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-41

CITY OF AUBURN

1225 Lincoln Way • Auburn, CA 95603 • (530)823-4211 • Fax(530)885-5508

October 30, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

Reference: Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the American River Pump Station Project, Auburn, California

To Whom It May Concern:

A I am writing on behalf of the Auburn City Council. Because the project is located in close proximity to the City of Auburn, there will be increased public access and recreation activities in the area. The Auburn City Council has concerns about the increased potential and risk for wild land fires in the American River Canyon and the impact on our City. The City Council requests that this issue be reviewed and appropriate mitigation provided.

Please also be advised that City staff is in the process of reviewing the draft EIS/EIR and will comment on other concerns by separate letter.

Sincerely,

Alice Dowdin Singh
Mayor

ADS/PO/mhc
cc: Tom Fossum, Director of Public Works
Howard Leal, Fire Chief
David Breninger, General Manager, Placer County Water Agency

A. The Draft EIS/EIR recognizes that use of the public river access facilities would result in increased public activity in the area and associated potential increased fire risk. (Section 2.3, page 2-43). Since publication of the Draft EIS/EIR, the Fuels Management Action Plan of the Auburn State Recreation Area Prefire Management Plan being prepared by Reclamation, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, CDPR, and in coordination with the City of Auburn, has been completed. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.9, Fire Management.

L-42

Placer County Water Agency

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR — BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

COMMENT CARD
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

NAME:	Teri Barney
ADDRESS:	10620 Pear Tree Ct
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	Auburn CA 95603
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	530-888-8170
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	Loomis Basin

COMMENTS:

A With a budget of 31 million a bridge should (must) be included in order to retain major trails in our area. A bridge would benefit a greater portion of people. It should also be noted that pavement is not user friendly to horses and maintaining dirt trails in all areas is very important.

Mountain bikes
hikers and
Equestrians need ~~these~~ this bridge in order to have a continued use of this portion of trails

PLEASE USE THIS TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT THE DRAFT EIS/EIR. YOU CAN SEND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO:
DRAFT EIS/EIR COMMENTS, SURFACE WATER RESOURCES, INC., 2031 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 110, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
JUST FOLD THIS SELF-ADDRESSED SHEET INTO THIRDS, SEAL, STAMP, AND MAIL. THANK YOU.
☑ ***Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.***

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.