L-53

Kim Dean
P.O. Box 497
Applegate, CA 95703

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

November 3, 2001

Dear Sir or Madam:

A

I often ride my horse through the Coffer Dam area trails of Auburn. I understand that these trails will be lost in the river restoration and pump station project. I am writing to voice my concern over the impact of this loss.

The trails will be severely affected by the loss of the Coffer Dam site. This area is a connection point for trails that lead in many directions, not only for equestrians, but also for mountain bikers, runners and hikers. This area is critical to keep the trails accessible for the enjoyment of so many.

I am sure the river can be restored as planned while minimizing the impact on the many people who use the trails. Auburn is well known for these trails, and the training and recreation they provide. It would be a shame to lose them! Please consider a bridge to provide the continued access for so many that now use the trails that will be lost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Dean

Kim Dean

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

L-54

Alice T. Dunbar
12865 Pine Cone Circle
Grass Valley, CA 95945

November 4, 2001

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

Dear Sir:

As an owner of a residence within walking distance of the American River, I commend the American River Pump Station Project and the proposed restoration of the American River near Auburn. However, there are several comments that I would like considered:

A
- The loss of the only safe recreational access from Auburn to Cool caused by this project via the Auburn to Cool Trail should be mitigated. Equestrians, mountain bikers, hikers and runners heavily use this trail. Several options exist. Build a pedestrian bridge near the pump station or create an alternative multi-user group trial that goes from the dam overlook to either Hwy. 49 at the river or Mt. Quarries Bridge and then up to Cool. Those are long-term solutions, how will the loss of this recreational resource be mitigated during construction periods?

B
- Complete restoration of the surrounding natural area should be considered. This should include re-naturalization of the existing dam footing scars.

C
- PCWA has not, in my opinion, pursued a very aggressive water conservation program for Placer County. I realize this would in no way supply enough water without the pump station project. However, it would be in our own best interest to help our community form good water use patterns now as the "building out" of Placer County will be here before long.

I appreciate this opportunity to give you my input.
Sincerely,

Alice Dunbar

Alice T. Dunbar

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

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.5, Project Area River Restoration.

C. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.11, Placer County Water Agency's Water Conservation Program.

L-55

Neighborhood Impact: Auburn Dam diversion Tunnel closure and American River restoration project

Are you aware?

- A major project is underway to restore the river channel and add recreation facilities in the canyon just below our neighborhood.
- An entrance station to a new State Parks facility to the American River is planned on Maidu Drive. – MAIDU is ALREADY OVER CROWDED – ex. School, new development – Suggest you move entrance

A

If not, you are invited to a community information session being given just for the neighborhood residents by the State Parks, PCWA and Bureau of Land Management at the time and place noted below.

Maidu Drive Neighborhood Information Session

(*Falcons Point, Auburn Oaks, Monticielo, Tanglewood, and Maidu Acres*)

When: Wednesday, November 7, 2001, 7-9 pm
Where: Skyridge School Multipurpose Room
800 Perkins Way, Auburn

There is a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that is available that outlines the details of the project. The following are some of the impacts to our neighborhood that you should be concerned with:

- Estimated increasing in traffic by 210 cars on peak days.
- Parking lots in the park to accommodate up to 60 vehicles.
- Increase in traffic and noise and associated safety issues for 2 years during construction.
- Will rafting company busses be allowed to the facilities?
- Who will police the facilities? What are the hours of operation?
- Are alternative entrance station sites being evaluated?

Please plan on attending this special meeting for your neighborhood.

The planning process is still underway and your opinion and ideas will be considered. Your opinions and comments to this project need to be mailed or faxed before November 9 to:

American River Pump Station Project, Draft EIR/EIS Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Ave. Suite #110
Sacramento, CA 95825
FAX: 916-286-0957

Copies of the draft EIR are available at the Placer County Library. If you have questions regarding this meeting please contact:
Dave Kasberg: 823-2565 –or- Ben Troia: 823-5157

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

L-56

BETSY WOBUS
10310 Penn Oak Lane
Rough and Ready, CA
95975-9785
(530) 432-5690
(530) 432-5681 Fax
bwobus@netcze.com

November 4, 2001

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

Dear Friend,

Although I have only lived in the Auburn area a little over one year, I have already come to love riding on the many trails out of the Auburn Dam Overlook. I understand that one of these, the Coffer Dam Trail, is scheduled to be closed with the up-coming re-opening of the river.

A Although we are all in favor of returning the American River to its natural course (and strongly opposed to building a real dam there!), most of my riding friends, as well as trail bikers and hikers feel that closing the Coffer Dam Trail would be a real mistake. This would leave No Hands Bridge as the only route between Auburn and Cool; not only would the bridge be overused, but also there would be many more problems with the convergence of multiple users at that one site.

Is it not possible somehow to provide another crossing once the river course is restored? Would it be that great an expense to build another bridge that could accommodate the many different users? We recognize that it could not be built "instantly," but at least including it in your planning would seem to be a prudent thing to do.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Betsy Wobus

Betsy Wobus

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

L-57

Joan R. Dowis
6640 Dahlberg Court
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-4543
Email: jdowis@foothill.net

November 5, 2001

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

Re: Coffer Dam Area Trails Closure
BRIDGE ALTERNATIVE

Dear Sirs:

The Coffer Dam site is an area in which several multi-use trails converge, which allows access between Auburn and Cool for a variety of user groups. These trails provide access to the Western States Trail in Auburn and the Olmstead Loop in Cool. Both of these areas allow access to further trail systems. Closing this site to trail use will leave only the Western States Trail between Auburn and Cool, which is closed to bicycles due to narrow hillside trails that do not permit safe use by bicycles as they endanger the other trail users. These trails were not designed to handle the kind of traffic that the Coffer Dam trails can, and illegal user groups have caused serious problems in the past, which were greatly relieved by the opening of the Coffer Dam area.

A Installation of the American River Pump Station does not require the closure of the Coffer Dam tunnel. This portion of the project is in place solely to benefit the rafting industry. All other users have access to this area today. It seems grossly inequitable to close off all other user groups for the singular benefit of one group, the rafting industry. Granted the rafters may bring some economic benefit to the area, but all of the other user groups certainly do also, in fact, no doubt to a much greater extent as the rafters do not tarry in Auburn or Cool – they are rapidly bused out when their trip is complete.

The PCWA claims that the Auburn-to-Cool trail loss is a significant but unavoidable impact of the river restoration and pump station project. The statement that the problems created by the project cannot be mitigated is untrue. This entire problem can be mitigated by the construction of a pedestrian/equestrian/bicycle bridge at the river, and retention of the trails through the area. This will allow the restoration of the river to a more natural course for the rafters, plus maintain the current ability of the other area users with access to the many and varied trail systems.

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail and Master Response 3.1.4, Auburn Dam Construction Bypass Tunnel. CDPR is not proposing or permitting commercial rafting use in this section of the river as part of this project. Additionally, boating within the project area currently is prohibited in the reach ½-mile upstream of the bypass tunnel inlet to 1/2–mile downstream of the bypass tunnel outlet (CDPR posted order No. 318-02-91).

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A (cont)

The Auburn area gave birth to both the Western States 100 Miles One Day Ride (the Tevis Cup) and the Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run, both of which are world famous and the standard for excellence for both sports. The area in question is a significant part of the training trails available to athletes who come from many areas to condition for these competitions.

The inclusion of a bridge into the project would add a very minor percentage to the cost of the overall project, one that could well be afforded. Rather than attempt to prevent the closing of the tunnel and reopening of the river course, it makes much more sense to incorporate the bridge and make the canyon available to all user groups, rather than a select few.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Joan R. Dowis

JOAN R. DOWIS