L-114

Inv (530) 885-4829 p.1

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:	Gerald J. Wilfley
ADDRESS:	10100 Snowy Owl Way
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	Auburn, CA. 95603
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	530-889-1331
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	

COMMENTS:

A

The above referenced project is a restorstion project of the Pump Station removed during the construction of the Auburn Dam. It also entails restoration of the American River to its natural channel which was also changed during the building of the Auburn Dam. These two restoration activities can be historically justified.

The provision for an access road and parking lot cannot be historically justified as they have never before existed. You are adding something completely new which exposess property owners living above the road and parking lot to a greatly increased risk of a devastating fire. This past year had three fires in the American River watershed which were all caused by careless people.

The homes that are being put at risk were there before any road access or parking lot existed in this part of the canyon, and their safety must be given precedence over any facilities that put these homes in Danger.

For many years people have been walking down to the river in this area to go fishing in the area below the diversion tunnell. We can continue to do that. In addition lets keep this section of the canyon in its natural state as much as possible and keep the cars and congestion away from an area your other two projects are attempting to return the area to its original state.

Protect these homeowners from unecessary worry and risk of wild fires casued by careless people. The homes were there before the road and parking lot.

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.*

NOV-13-01 TUE 9:06 AM 530 885 4829 P. 1

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.6, Public River Access Features and Master Response 3.1.9, Fire Management.

Additionally, it is noted that Maidu Drive was constructed by Reclamation to serve as a major construction haul route and primary access to the Auburn Dam area. Local approval and development of the residential area surrounding Maidu Drive has occurred with the knowledge that the Auburn Dam project could one day be re-authorized by Congress. In any event, the lead agencies, in formulating the Proposed Project and their objectives and purposes, are not limited to restoring conditions that existed before construction began on the Auburn Dam. Rather, the agencies have discretion to address safety considerations associated with the possibility that river users could get trapped in a long stretch of the canyon from which there is currently no easy means of departure. Though the project might result in increased public use of the river and canyon, the lead agencies have carefully formulated a Auburn State Recreation Area Prefire Management Plan that is intended to minimize any increased threat of wildfires to the maximum extent possible.

L-115

Skip Lauderbaugh, 08:29 AM 11/13/01, American River Pump Station Pr

Date: Tue, 13 Nov 2001 08:29:47 -0800
From: Skip Lauderbaugh <Skip@foothill.net>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en]C-CCK-MCD ezn/n45/72 (Win98; I)
X-Accept-Language: en
To: brown@swri.net
CC: "'Jim Haagen-Smit'" <jimhs@rose.hp.com>,
Sean & Mary Allan <allansx2@inreach.com>
Subject: American River Pump Station Project

A

I am writing this letter to let you know my concern of the possible trail closure for Mt. Bikes due to the closing of the diversion tunnel on the American River. While I support the closure of the tunnel and the restoration of the river so more people can enjoy this beautiful river canyon, I am concerned about loosing trail access between Auburn and Cool. With the tunnel closing, the only trail for Mt. Bikes will be closed by the river. Mt. Bikers are probably one of the largest user groups in both of these prized trail areas. Mt. Bikers have the spent more hours on maintaining and patrolling the local trails then any other user group in these two areas. Unfortunately, with the tunnel closure our only access between these two trails will be a very dangerous ride up Hwy. 49. The other user groups hikers, runners, and horses will have access- Mt. Bikes must also be considered!

I do not think that another large expensive bridge is required, or the best use of taxpayers money. Instead, for a fraction of the money, a connector trail that would go from the dam over look to the existing Hwy. 49 bridge or No-Hands bridge to cross the river and then connect to the Cool side trails would be a win /win. Giving Mt. bikers a connection to the two trail areas, and increasing the amount of trails in the area for everyone to enjoy.

Please consider this alternative. Mt. Bikers may not be the most vocal of the user groups, but they are one of the largest, and have positive impact on the local trails. Most of us would rather work on preserving and maintaining the local trails then writing letters....

Sincerely,

Skip Lauderbaugh
FATRAC Member
ARMBA Patrol Member

Printed for "Carol Brown, Surface Water Resources, Inc." <br... **1**

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

L-116

Chris Marney, 12:36 AM 11/13/01, Draft EIS/EIR Comments

X-Originating-IP: [206.217.205.214]
From: "Chris Marney" <camarney@hotmail.com>
To: <brown@swri.net>
Subject: Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Date: Tue, 13 Nov 2001 00:36:09 -0800
X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 7.00.0021.1700
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 13 Nov 2001 08:32:09.0320 (UTC) FILETIME=[AF40DE80:01C16C1D]

November 13, 2001

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

Dear Project Reviewers:

I am concerned about the loss of the Auburn to Cool trail as a result of the closing of the tunnel at the Auburn dam construction site.

A

The Auburn to Cool trail currently provides the only safe route for mountain bicyclists to get between the two towns. The only other route requires riding on at least two miles of Highway 49, which does not provide safe shoulders and has high traffic speeds.

I realize that the cost of a bridge would be quite large. I believe that a better, lower cost alternative would be a new trail traveling from the dam overlook in Auburn down to either Hwy. 49 at the N. Fork American River or to the Mountain Quarries Bridge (a.k.a. "No Hands Bridge") and then up to Cool.

I hope that mitigation for closing the existing trail would include all or partial funding for such a trail.

B

The completion of the pump station project will result in more people using the Auburn State Park. Additional long term funds are needed to manage the Park as the number of visitors increase. Funding sources should be identified to do this.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Chris Marney, Trail Patroller
American River Mountain Bike Assistants (ARMBA)
camarney@hotmail.com or cmarney@msn.com

Get more from the Web. FREE MSN Explorer download : http://explorer.msn.com

Printed for "Carol Brown, Surface Water Resources, Inc." <br... 1

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

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.2, American River Pump Station Project Funding.

L-117

Jim & Cathy Haagen-, 03:16 PM 11/12/01, Auburn to Cool Trail

Date: Mon, 12 Nov 2001 15:16:34 -0800
From: Jim & Cathy Haagen-Smit <jimhs@jps.net>
Organization: IMBA
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.77 [en] (Win98; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
To: brown@swri.net
CC: jimhs@rose.hp.com
Subject: Auburn to Cool Trail

Carol Brown,

A We earlier submitted written comments regarding the PCWA Pump Station. This is a follow-up email specifically about the Auburn to Cool Trail. We would like to re-iterate that mitigating the loss of the trail is extremely important to mountain bikers who have only this one off-road route to get between Auburn and Cool. My husband and I just rode the trail from Auburn to Cool this past Saturday, returning to Auburn via a portion of Hwy 49. We were reminded how dangerous that route is for bicyclists.

In looking at the terrain, we are very hopeful that a new trail could be flagged from the Mtn Quarries Bridge up to the Olmstead Loop in Cool. Between Auburn and Mtn Quarries, there exists the old railroad grade that at one point was to be developed into a trail. We could re-vive perhaps the rail-trail and open Mtn Quarries to mtn bikers. The impacts to wildlife would be no more than what currently exists, we would think. A well-designed single track on the southside, would be unintrusive and impacts minimal. As stated the rail-trail allignment already exists. We attended the recent PARC (Protect American River Canyon) meeting and PARC appears in favor of supporting this option as a valuable mitigation measure.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. -Cathy Haagen-Smit

--
Jim and Cathy Haagen-Smit, CA State Reps for IMBA
California Bicycle Coalition
Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition
Jim at 916-785-4589, jimhs@jps.net or jimhs@rose.hp.com
Cathy at 530-889-7079, cathyhs@jps.net or chaagen@placer.ca.gov
7589 Ridge Rd.
Newcastle, CA 95658
(916) 663-4626
Long Live Long Rides

Printed for "Carol Brown, Surface Water Resources, Inc." <br... 1

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

L-118

Nov 13 01 08:11a Rona 9167863503 p.1

RONALD L. OTTO, D.D.S., M.S.
Diplomate American Board of Orthodontics
A Professional Corporation

125-B Ascot Drive • Roseville, CA 95661 • Telephone (916) 786-2442

FAX COVER SHEET

Date 11-13-01 Number of Pages 3

TO:
Name Carol Brown
Company Surface Water Resources
Fax 916 286-0957

FROM: Ronald L. Otto, D.D.S.
Fax # (916)786-3503

Ms. Brown-

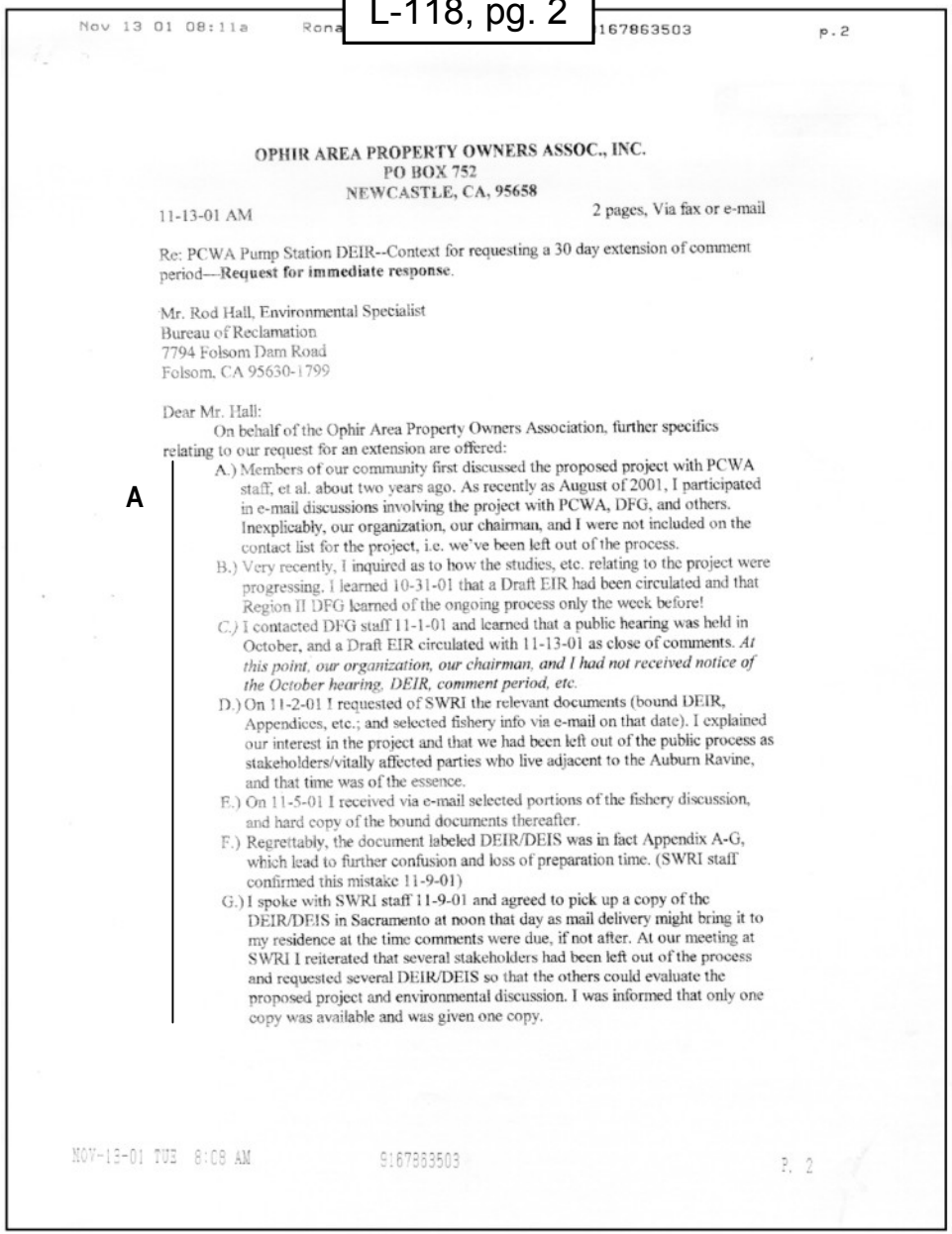
As I've not received Mr. Rod Hall/BuRec e-mail and Fax addresses requested yesterday, I'm sending a faxed letter to you FOR immediate distribution to BuRec, Mr. Hall, and PCWA. This provides context FOR our request FOR at least a 30 day extension of the comment period on the North Fork American PCWA Pump Station DEIR.

As you know, time is of the essence (this is the date FOR close OF comments), and I need to hear from you/the decision makers immediately as to the extension OF the comment period, OR not.

Ronald Otto

NOV-13-01 TUE 8:07 AM 9167863503 P. 1

L-118, pg. 2



Nov 13 01 08:11a Rona 9167863503 p.2

OPHIR AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC., INC.
PO BOX 752
NEWCASTLE, CA. 95658

11-13-01 AM 2 pages, Via fax or e-mail

Re: PCWA Pump Station DEIR--Context for requesting a 30 day extension of comment period---**Request for immediate response**.

Mr. Rod Hall, Environmental Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom, CA 95630-1799

Dear Mr. Hall:

On behalf of the Ophir Area Property Owners Association, further specifics relating to our request for an extension are offered:

A.) Members of our community first discussed the proposed project with PCWA staff, et al. about two years ago. As recently as August of 2001, I participated in e-mail discussions involving the project with PCWA, DFG, and others. Inexplicably, our organization, our chairman, and I were not included on the contact list for the project, i.e. we've been left out of the process.

B.) Very recently, I inquired as to how the studies, etc. relating to the project were progressing. I learned 10-31-01 that a Draft EIR had been circulated and that Region II DFG learned of the ongoing process only the week before!

C.) I contacted DFG staff 11-1-01 and learned that a public hearing was held in October, and a Draft EIR circulated with 11-13-01 as close of comments. *At this point, our organization, our chairman, and I had not received notice of the October hearing, DEIR, comment period, etc.*

D.) On 11-2-01 I requested of SWRI the relevant documents (bound DEIR, Appendices, etc.; and selected fishery info via e-mail on that date). I explained our interest in the project and that we had been left out of the public process as stakeholders/vitally affected parties who live adjacent to the Auburn Ravine, and that time was of the essence.

E.) On 11-5-01 I received via e-mail selected portions of the fishery discussion, and hard copy of the bound documents thereafter.

F.) Regrettably, the document labeled DEIR/DEIS was in fact Appendix A-G, which lead to further confusion and loss of preparation time. (SWRI staff confirmed this mistake 11-9-01)

G.) I spoke with SWRI staff 11-9-01 and agreed to pick up a copy of the DEIR/DEIS in Sacramento at noon that day as mail delivery might bring it to my residence at the time comments were due, if not after. At our meeting at SWRI I reiterated that several stakeholders had been left out of the process and requested several DEIR/DEIS so that the others could evaluate the proposed project and environmental discussion. I was informed that only one copy was available and was given one copy.

NOV-13-01 TUE 8:08 AM 9167863503 P. 2

A

A. Please refer to Response L-95.A. The public comment review period was extended for an additional 30 days for a total review period of 93 days.

L-118, pg. 3

A

Clearly, the right of the public to be properly informed and to participate in this CEQA/NEPA process has not met the standard required. We regret that this has happened, but find ourselves in an untenable situation not of our making, and not of our choosing.

As today is the stated close of comments, please immediately respond.

Sincerely,

Ronald Otto

Ronald Otto for Auburn Ravine Creek Preservation Committee, Ophir Area Property Owners Association

Tuesday work telephone: 916-786-2442
Tuesday fax: 916-786-3503

Cc: Dick Dal Pino, OAPOA
PCWA
SWRI
NCCFFF
CSPA