

My father, Jack Catt lived in Salt Flat for about 20 years. He died last month, soon after he was photographed standing on the bridge as a resident who wants Salt Flat to stay a private community. The picture, taken by Phil Nelson, was published recently by the Trinity Journal. It is probably the last photograph of my dad. He always had the courage of his convictions and he made his thoughts very clear to me that he didn't want the public access because of possible vandalism and trash.

a.

About 3 years ago, two people came to my parents' door saying they were demonstrating carpet care. They started asking such suspicious questions and poking around that my dad demanded that they get out of there. He had been deathly ill but he stood up to them because they appeared to be casing the property. Other neighbors reported the same observations. This is a rare case in Salt Flat due to the fact that it is private. Residents are self-policed, do maintenance and abide by the C.C.& R's and have quarterly meetings.

My dad hiked in from Rush Creek for eight weeks during the repairs to the bridge in 1982-83. Since then the bridge was re-designed and a wing dam was constructed which allows for higher flows.

b.

He would be one of the first to speak out for our private bridge to be replaced with a private bridge. After all, as I understand it, the Bureau of Reclamation Agency is who has said ours is not adequate and needs to be replaced for higher flows. Salt Flat did not ask for it.

c.

He has a lot of his blood, sweat and tears in this home and in the bridge. I speak for him by passing on his wishes.

His son,

Jack Catt

June 9, 2003

Jack Lee Catt, Res.
Upper Salt Flat Rd.
Jewiston Ca.

RESPONSE TO COMMENT: 28

Jack Lee Catt

28-a: Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted, and will be transmitted to the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and federal officials for their consideration in connection with the merits of the proposed project. No further response is required.

28-b: Your comment regarding your fathers experience regarding the 1982-83 bridge repairs supports the need to address access to Salt Flat during flood flows. Your information, as well as information from Mr. Evans (Comment 4) on the impacts of the 1982/1983 floods to the Salt Flat Bridge and your ability to access your property is important. This information will be incorporated into Section 3.4.1 (Water Resources, Affected Environment, Environmental Setting).

- Page 3.4-6 of the EA/EIR has been revised to read:

The flood season on the Trinity River usually lasts from October through April, when over 90 percent of the annual precipitation falls. Floods on the Trinity River are somewhat controlled by the dams upstream of Lewiston. The greatest flood recorded for the area occurred in December 1955. Floods have also been recorded for the years 1862, 1926, 1928, 1937, 1940, 1941, 1948, 1950, 1958, 1960, 1963, 1964, 1972, and 1974 (FEMA 1996) and 1997.

Reportedly, the 1982/1983 flood rendered the Salt Flat Bridge unusable for 8 weeks. The residents were obliged to hike over an old road to Rush Creek (Route 3, Appendix K). In 1983, the Salt Flat Bridge was extended 180 feet to higher ground. In 1997, the bridge withstood the flows, although it was overtopped.

The reach of the Trinity River between Lewiston Lake and Douglas City flows through canyon and forest areas along the southeast edge of Browns Mountain. This mountain is located in the east central portion of the county. The flat areas are now covered by dredger tailings from gold mining operations. This reach of the stream has a slope of approximately 20 feet per mile (FEMA 1996).

28-c: Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted, and will be transmitted to the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and federal officials for their consideration in connection with the merits of the proposed project. No further response is required.