

Wayne White 1990
030743
~~500562~~
-Doug



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
Sacramento Field Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

~~500562~~

1978-4613

January 24, 1990

Dr. Robin Pinion
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, California 95801

Subject: List of impaired water bodies for the updated Water Quality Assessment

This responds to the Notice of Public Hearing on the updated Water Quality Assessment scheduled for January 31, 1990 by the State Water Resources Control Board. We understand that one of the purposes of the Assessment is to identify impaired water bodies that are adversely impacted by factors other than toxic contaminants or pollutants. These factors may include inadequate or altered instream flow, unfavorable water temperature, sedimentation, degraded substrate, lack of riparian cover, and other influences adversely affecting beneficial uses.

Our initial reaction is to simply state that virtually all water bodies in California are impaired to some extent. However, based on our review of Federal water project developments and Federal permit and license applications, we have developed a cursory list of major impacted water bodies in that part of the State which falls under the purview of the Sacramento Field Office (north of the Mono Basin-Tehachapi Range-San Luis Obispo area). Because of limited time and personnel to act on this request, the list is incomplete and includes only those water bodies that we have knowledge of because of Federal activities, proposed or otherwise, that involve our assessment of fish and wildlife resources.

LIST OF ADVERSELY IMPACTED STREAMS, RIVERS AND LAKES

WATER BODY	LOCATION	IMPACTS DESCRIPTION
5 Pit River	Lassen/Shasta Counties	Degraded water quality from agriculture uses and hydroelectric projects.
1 Shasta River	Siskiyou County	Degraded water quality from ag uses; high nutrient, algae levels
5 ✓ Fall River	Shasta County	Degraded water quality from ag uses, overgrazing, water diversions

Dr. Robin Pinion

2

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Klamath River Siskiyou county, below Copco Dam | Degraded water quality, warm water temps due to water impoundments, ag diversions. |
| 1 | Trinity River Trinity County, near Weaverville, Lewiston | Degraded substrate, inadequate flows, warm water temps due to out-of-basin diversions. |
| 5 | ✓ Sacramento River Redding to Hamilton City. | Degraded substrate, unfavorable water quality and flow fluctuations, increased water temperatures, loss of riparian habitat due to CVP impoundment & diversions, lack of gravel recruitment, inadequate dilution flow for toxic inflow such as Spring Creek spills, and ag encroachment; bank prot. |
| 5 | Clear Creek Shasta County below Redding | Degraded salmon spawning habitat, riparian encroachment, inadequate flows, warm temperatures resulting from out-of-basin CVP water diversions, and reduced substrate quality due to gravel mining. |
| 5 | Cow Creek Shasta County | Heavy sedimentation, loss of fish habitat from hydro diversions, conduit failures |
| 5 | Battle Creek Shasta County (upstream from Coleman Powerhouse) | Greatly reduced flows, high water temperatures, poor fish habitat due to hydroelectric power diversions. |
| 5 | Cottonwood Creek Shasta and Tehama Counties | Poor water quality during low flow due to ag return flows. Reduced substrate quality due to instream gravel mining. |

Mr. Robin Pinion

3

- 5 Mill Creek Tehama County Poor water flow and high temperatures due to irrigation diversions.
- 5 Deer Creek Tehama County Poor water flow and high temperatures due to irrigation diversions. Poor fish passage conditions in lower stream channel due to flood control projects.
- 5 Chico Creek Butte County Poor habitat due to insufficient instream flow, channelization, urban runoff, and agric. diversions.
- 5 Butte Creek Butte County Inadequate salmon migration and habitat conditions due to extensive diversions. No fish screens.
- 5 N.Fork Feather River Plumas County Degraded fish habitat due to inadequate flow, fluctuating impoundments, sediment accumulation, warm water temps; caused by hydro development.
- 5 ✓ Feather River Butte County, below Oroville Dam Reduced natural spawning in low-flow section due to flow diversions; reduced Amer shad habitat due to low flows, poor water temps resulting from SWP flow impoundments and diversions.
- 5 Yuba River Yuba County near Marysville Poor flow conditions, warm water temps from ag diversions, upstream storage and (lack of) releases, primarily during critical spring periods. Poor fish screening.
- 5 North Fork Yuba River Yuba County Insufficient flows below New Bullards Bar.

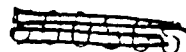
030746

~~500585~~

Mr. Robin Pinion

4

5	Bear River	Sutter County near Wheatland	Inadequate flows for salmon migration and production, and high water temps, from ag. diversions.
	Clear Lake	County	Polluted due to high nutrient loading; loss of tule habitat.
5	Cache Creek	Below Clear Lake	Insufficient flow, warm water temperatures, sediments.
5	Putah Creek	Below Solano Reserv.	Insufficient instream flow, warm water temp.
	Smith River	Del Norte County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.
	Redwood Creek	Humboldt County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion and overgrazing.
	Mad River	Humboldt County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.
	Eel River	Mendocino and Humboldt	Insufficient flow resulting from out-of-basin water transfers; warm water temperatures.
	Van Duzen River	Humboldt County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.
	Mattole River	Humboldt County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.
	Noyo River	Mendocino County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion and overgrazing.
	Big River	Mendocino County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.



Dr. Robin Pinion

5

1 Navarro River	Mendocino County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion and overgrazing.
1 Gualala River	Sonoma County	Loss of fish habitat from logging, road building, erosion, and overgrazing.
1 Russian River	Sonoma County	Warm water temperatures from summer dams.
2 Petaluma River	Sonoma County	Insufficient flows, loss of wetlands.
2 Guadalupe River	Santa Clara County	Diversions, channelization, inadequate flows, high asbestos levels.
2 Coyote Creek	Santa Clara County	Agricultural encroachment.
2 Napa River	Napa County	Warm water temps, return vineyard irrig flows, water diversions, loss of riparian habitat and wetlands.
2 Suisun Marsh	Solano County	Saltwater intrusion, lack of freshwater inflow.
2 Suisun Bay	Solano County	Saltwater intrusion, upward movement of null zone.
2 Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta	Sacramento, San Joaquin, Contra Costa Counties	Warm water temperatures, pesticide accumulation, flow reversals, loss of riparian habitat.
2 Richardson Bay	Marin County	Urban runoff from surrounding development.
2 South San Francisco Bay	San Mateo and Alameda Counties	Lack of freshwater inflow, urban runoff.
2 Alameda Creek	Alameda County	Inadequate flows, sedimentation, high warm temps., channelization of lower reach.
2 Lagunitas Creek	Marin County	Water diversion.

~~SECRET~~

Dr. Robin Pinion

6

1	Estero de Americano	Marin County	Agriculture encroachment
2	Laguna	Sonoma County	Urban runoff, channelization, agriculture encroachment, loss of riparian and wetlands.
	Carmel River	Monterey County	Water impoundments, diversions.
3	Salinas River	Monterey County	Water impoundments, inadequate instream flow, agric. uses.
4	American River	Sacramento County	Inadequate flows, high water temperatures.
5	North Fork Mokelumne River	Below Salt Springs Reservoir (Amador and Calaveras Counties)	Inadequate flows due to hydroelectric projects.
6	Mokelumne River	Below Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs	Inadequate flows for salmon, steelhead migration/spawning, poor water quality because of extensive water diversions out of basin.
7	Camanche Reserv	Mokelumne River	Extensive drawdown results in low DO, high H2S levels.
8	Calaveras River	San Joaquin County	Inadequate flows due to water diversions, loss of riparian habitats, gravel mining.
9	Tuolumne River	Modesto Area	High water temperatures, loss of fish habitat, especially during spring and summer, due to diversions (min. flow only 3 cfs below La Grange Dam).
10	Tuolumne River	Upper reaches below Hetch-Hetchy	Insufficient instream flows and high water temperatures from water diversions for hydroelectric power.
11	Cherry Creek	Both forks below Cherry and Eleanor Lakes	Insufficient instream flows and high water temperatures from water diversions for hydroelectric power.

~~000000~~

Dr. Robin Pinion

7

North Fork Stanislaus River	Calaveras, Alpine Tuolumne Counties	Insufficient instream flow due to hydroelectric diversions.
Middle Fork Stanislaus River	Calaveras	Degraded substrates and poor fish habitat due to peak-power operations.
South Fork Stanislaus River	Tuolumne County	Insufficient instream flows, primarily below Philadelphia Diversion. Warm water temp, algae.
Merced River	Merced & Mariposa Counties, below New Exchequer Dam.	Insufficient instream flows, instream gravel mining.
San Joaquin River	Below Friant Dam	Insufficient flow to support anadromous fish, warm water temperatures, sediment deposition, pump entrainment.
Upper San Joaquin River (includ tribs)	Madera & Fresno Counties	Degraded fish habitat due to hydropower, lack of instream flows, sedimentation, diversions.
Kings River	Below Pine Flat Reservoir	Lack of instream flow due to water diversions; poor substrate, lack of gravel recruitment, sedimentation.
North Fork Kings River	Fresno County	Degraded fish habitat due to insufficient flows.
Kaweah River	Below Lake Kaweah	Water diversions, lower reaches dry, high water temp, loss of fish and wildlife habitat.
Upper Kaweah River	Tulare County	Insufficient instream flows, high water temps, degraded fish habitat.
Tule River	Below Lake Success	Insufficient instream flows, degraded fish habitat
Upper Tule River	Tulare County	Insufficient instream flows, degraded fish habitat.

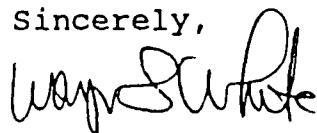
~~580500~~

Dr. Robin Pinion

8

Kern River	Below Isabella Lake	Insufficient instream flow, degraded fish habitat.
Upper Kern River	Kern County	Insufficient instream flows, degraded fish habitat.
Fresno River	Madera County	Water diversions, lower reaches dry, high water temp, loss of fish and wildlife habitat.
Chowchilla River	Madera and Merced Counties	Water diversions, lower reaches dry, high water temp, loss of fish and wildlife habitat.
5 Agriculture Drainwater Ponds	Fresno, Kern King & Madera Counties	Loss of fish and wildlife habitat, high salinity and toxic levels from agriculture runoff.
Salt Slough	Merced and Madera Counties	High water temperatures, contaminants, and sedimentation.
Mud Slough	Merced and Madera Counties	High water temperatures, contaminants, and sedimentation.
Walker River	Mono County	Insufficient instream flows due to agric. diversions.
All reservoirs	State wide	Blockage of fish movements, degradation of downstream habitat from inadequate flow releases and lack of flushing flows, high water temps.

Sincerely,


Wayne S. White
Field Supervisor

030751

~~SECRET~~

cc: AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR
Lewiston Substation, FWS, Lewiston, CA
Dir., CDFG, Sacramento
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Region 1, Redding
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Region 2, Rancho Cordova
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Region 3, Yountville
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Region 4, Fresno
Reg. Admin. EPA, San Francisco
NRDC, San Francisco