

From: Century 21 [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2005 3:53 PM
To: 2105comments@nsrnet.com
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Lake Almanor Thermal Curtain

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To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose the Lake Almanor Thermal Curtain as an alternative for reducing the water temperature downstream.

1. Lake Almanor is a valuable asset to the community as well as for Plumas County revenues. The thermal curtain would have a tremendous impact on the natural fisheries located in Lake Almanor. The current fish populations could be virtually destroyed by a plan that is not only cost prohibitive but also not proven to be effective.
2. Visual observation of the Feather River upstream of the area of the needed temperature reduction is that since the flooding in 1997, particularly in the Beldon area, quite a bit of silt and debris have significantly reduced the water depth. There are numerous islands and vegetation that are apparent. An assumption might be made that if these areas were excavated or dredged to improve the water capacity and depth, it would also reduce the water temperature, quality and assist the fish habitat to recover.
3. The economic impact to Plumas County could be devastating to a county whose main employment source is tourism. Property tax revenues would also be severely diminished if the property values drop due to the decrease in tourism.
4. Consideration should be given that with or without a thermal curtain, stream restoration or excavating, that water temperature downstream may not be successfully reduced. Local climates have changed in the last 30 years with summer and winter temperatures warmer. There has been less snow fall and more rain. What impact has global warming had on the fish habitat and the increase of water temperatures in the region.
5. Impact on the water temperature of Lake Almanor, Butt Lake and downstream if the lake levels remain consistently higher during the winter. Currently there are water releases that accommodate downstream summer recreational activities. Consideration of higher summer time elevation levels around 4494 rather than in the 4480's as has been more common from June through September.

I plan on attending the meeting on September 27, 2005.

Sincerely,

Mary Getz

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