

Clarksburg Marina Policy Statement

Clarksburg Marina is a family owned and operated marina on the Sacramento River that has been serving the Boating and Fishing public since the early 1960's. We are acutely aware of the need for this marina and additional water-related services in the Clarksburg area. We will aspire to provide such services even as the fishery has ups and downs and the water and fishery management fluctuates. A driving force for expanding our services is the growth in the local wine tasting and agri-tourism industry.

Currently we provide:

- Long-term Birthing for Boaters and Fishermen
- Short-term and transient Birthing for Boaters and Fishermen
- Public access to the Sacramento River
- Lunch-time, Outdoor Dining for Visitors by land or water
- A vista rest area for Motorists, Cyclists and Walkers.
- A river-front walking path

We intend to also provide:

- Boat, Kayak, and Jet Ski rentals
- Park Model lodging with water-front views
- A public pier and launch ramp
- Waterfront picnic area

All that we do now and all that we intend to do as a business and service depends on the water in the Sacramento River, both the quantity and the quality. And we can attest to the fact that these two characteristics are inseparable. It is obvious in the winter and spring, when we get rain, that the water quality decreases as flows increase. However this natural change is essential to the health of not only the Sacramento River, but also the Delta and the entire Bay-Delta Estuary as a whole. This natural process triggers a sequence of events that keeps the Estuary in balance.

What is not as obvious is the affect that the current water management is having on the Delta. We are experiencing continuous, record low water flows. Lower even than droughts experienced over the past 50 years. As a result water quality in the Estuary is at record low levels. In the past 3 years we have experienced never seen before water-born vegetation growth, algae growth, high water temperatures, silt build-up, salinity intrusion and counter-flow on incoming tides to the point that we have sea lions swimming around our docks.

The proposed Tunnels project will be detrimental to our business and the Bay-Delta Estuary. State produced literature admits that construction activities for the tunnels will seriously affect the local fishery. No where have we found in the documentation where the State addresses the effect on local boating, but just as motorists will avoid high trafficked areas through construction zones, we can logically expect that boaters will avoid our area as well. And that would only be the start of the decline. As water is diverted from the Estuary, the degradation we are currently experiencing will only be exacerbated and accelerated.

We see no scenario in which the State's Tunnel and our Marina co-exist. If the State goes forward with the Tunnels project, we anticipate that the damage done to our environment, on which our business depends, will render our business unviable. The fishery will be decimated due to loss of both water quantity and the resultant quality. Boaters will avoid the area, as will tourists, in part due to the blight the massive intakes will impart on the landscape, as well as the shallow, vegetation laden, river that will result from increased water diversions.

Even though the Clarksburg Marina is the closest marina to the intended intakes, our situation is not unique. The increased water diversions will be catastrophic throughout the entire Bay-Delta Estuary and to every living creature in the water, on the land, and flying over the area. No tweaking of science will ever honestly prove that increasing diversions will bring the Estuary back from the brink of destruction where the State currently holds it. We hope honest, public serving authorities will come forward and find a different solution to the State's water situation.

Don & Kathleen Updegraff
Clarksburg Marina
PO Box 452
Clarksburg, Ca 95612
916-744-1274