

Sisson, California,
September 18, 1919.

Mr. W. H. Shibley,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

The Shasta River was closed to salmon yesterday at noon, and the racks were completed last evening. Mr. Hunt and myself went to Hornbrook Tuesday and visited all the Klamath River stations. On arrival in Hornbrook I found a telephone call for me from District Attorney Allen. He wanted to know about the racks at the mouth of Shasta River, and stated that the people of Yreka were very much excited over it. I told him that I would be in Yreka, with Mr. Hunt, on the next afternoon. We accordingly called at Mr. Allen's office and he stated that the people of Yreka and of Scott's Valley were greatly opposed to the racks and that he was afraid there would be violence if they were put in. I told him they were already in, and that I was acting upon orders from your office. During the conversation I mentioned the fact that the people of Yreka had, some years ago, built a crib at the mouth of Shasta River to divert the salmon from the Klamath River into that stream, and as it was still in place they were doing the same thing the Fish and Game Commission was doing and to which the people objected, and while I had no authority for saying so, that it was my opinion that if there had been no crib there would have been no racks, but the Commission was acting entirely for the best interest of all the people and must have the eggs in order to keep up the runs in the river. I also advised him that his best course would be to take the matter up with you after he had obtained the views of the citizens in the matter, and if you so ordered I would remove the racks, otherwise I had no authority to do any thing in the matter.

From his conversation I think he will suggest to you that we remove the racks and blow out the crib, and I would recommend that we do this. If we remove both racks and crib we can so arrange the channel at the mouth that the water will enter the Klamath River through a wide channel instead of the narrow one as is now the case, and this will prevent any great run going up that stream. In other words we will restore the channel to the condition it was in before the crib was built and then the Shasta River will only get such fish as would naturally go up that stream. In this way we will conserve the interests of the Fish and Game Commission, and at the same time create a more friendly feeling among the citizens towards the Commission. Mr. Hunt was with me during the interview and can give you a full report of our conversation.

COMMISSION
ORNIA

W.H.S. 2. Sept. 18/19.

I have temporarily placed one of the men from the Klamath Station on watch at the racks. He will go there this morning and camp close to the racks, and Mr. Cassell was instructed to order him to keep all parties away from them.

The situation is unfortunate as the feeling against the Commission is strong, and it is undoing all the good that was done by our conference with the citizens of Yreka last year.

Yours very truly,

R. A. [Signature]