

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

REGION 2
1701 NIMBUS ROAD, SUITE A
RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA 95670
(916) 355-7090



July 1, 1981

Robert Lusk
Forest Supervisor
Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Bob:

You may recall participating in a joint Forest Service, Fish and Game inspection trip of storage dams in Desolation Wilderness about two years ago. One of the dams was Schmidell.

Sometime in the last two years, two large logs have floated into the Schmidell Lake Dam. One log is the root section, about six feet in diameter and ten feet in length. The other appears to be a section of the same tree about the same length. Both appear to be somewhat waterlogged.

During August, we expect to have a ten-person California Conservation Corps crew at Schmidell Lake and nearby Lois Lake removing the smaller logs and repairing the dam. It is estimated the C.C.C. crew will need ten days to remove the logs and repair the dams at both lakes.

We would like your permission to use blasting powder on the two large logs behind the Schmidell Lake Dam during August 1981. Our intent is to break up the logs so they may be hand cut and/or removed by the C.C.C. crew. Blasting would be done by our own licensed blaster and could be set for any hour you designate. The crew members would be stationed around the site to prevent backpackers from entering the danger area.

It would be desirable from our standpoint to do the blasting in August when the hand labor is available to us rather than in the Fall when labor will be scarce.

Sincerely,

COPY Original signed by
Clifford Matthews

for
Paul T. Jensen
Regional Manager

cc: Richard, Ryan, RAO
Survey files

JR:JHR:ss

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

REGION 2
1701 NIMBUS ROAD, SUITE A
RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA 95670
(916) 355-7090



July 21, 1981

Robert R. Lusk
Forest Supervisor
Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Bob:

The log problem at Schmidell Lake can be handled adequately in September. We appreciate the problem of public safety and have no desire to precipitate unnecessary PR work. Jim Richard will work out details with Clyde Carter.

Sincerely,

COPY Original Signed By
P.T. Jensen

Paul T. Jensen
Regional Manager

cc: J. Richard

Memorandum

To : Survey Files

Date: March 30, 1982

From : Department of Fish and Game

Subject: Schmidell Lake, El Dorado County

Two large juniper logs were blown out of Schmidell Lake during September 15-18, 1981 by J. B. Richard, Charley Young, Bill Wilson from DFG and Clyde Carter and Ron Carlson from USFS.

The root section was next to the dam and was about four feet in diameter and 8-10 feet long. The other section was about the same size but had drifted from the dam to a cove on the northeast side of the lake.

The log near the dam was drilled and the explosive placed in the holes. The log was anything but straight grained and 1/2 case of explosive was needed to break the log up into pieces small enough to handle. The charges had to be light enough so the dam would not be damaged unnecessarily. Even so, some damage to the well did occur. On the other log, a girdle of explosive was placed around the log and underwater. This method blew the log to bits and pieces and placed big chunks above the high water line.

No problems were encountered with backpackers straying into the lake. We positioned ourselves at entry points to prevent people from coming into the blast area. The few campers at the lake soon left because of noise.



J. B. Richard
Fishery Biologist

JBR:jp