



897. El Dorado Sopiago Creek. 1959. 1959. 1959.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**Department of Fish and Game**

Region II  
1001 Jedsmith Drive  
Sacramento 19, California  
December 28, 1959

Mr. Frank E. Berry  
Berry Lumber Company  
Pine Grove, California

Dear Mr. Berry:

We have gathered information on Sopiago Creek (Clear Creek) since your series of three additional holding ponds were constructed. This information leads us to believe that these ponds are not the complete answer to correct the pollution problems in the creek.

This series of ponds have helped to rid the creek of bark, sawdust, and other undesirable materials that were formerly present. However, these ponds are shallow and fully exposed to the sun. This, we have noted, results in about a ten degree rise in water temperature during the summer below your mill. These high temperatures are definitely harmful to the trout population.

Don Kelley tells me that you had thought of diverting the entire flow of Sopiago Creek around your mill if the series of ponds did not solve the pollution problem. It is possible that this will help to restore suitable conditions and habitat for trout in Sopiago Creek.

If there are any questions you may have about this, we will be glad to meet with you at any time. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Robert D. Montgomery  
Regional Manager  
Region II

JLG/rs

cc: Central Valley Regional Water  
Pollution Control Board No. 5  
Attn: Colonel Joseph S. Gorlinski  
Walter Thomsen  
Warden Ed Johnson

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