

LLOYD W. SWIFT
CONSULTING BIOLOGIST
3432 GREENTREE DRIVE
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22041

April 19, 1972

Mr. Darrel Nance, Chairman
Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District
Pilot Hill, California 95664

Dear Mr. Nance:

While visiting at the home ranch near Latrobe early this month, I had the pleasure of talking briefly to you by phone on Saturday, April 8. At that time, I mentioned that my grandfather, Samuel Q. Forni, had been the pioneer owner of Stumpy Meadows and until his death in 1913, at the age of 79, spent his summers there. My mother usually went up to Pilot Creek with the younger children when school was out. Consequently, my acquaintance with the Stumpy Meadows area and the people associated with its ownership and use extends over a period of 60+ years. Although I have resided outside California for some years, visits have been frequent and my interest in El Dorado County maintained.

Reference is made to the resolution of May 19, 1960 of the Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District which in part states, "that on completion of the dam and reservoir now referred to as Stumpy Meadows Dam and Reservoir, the said dam be named and designated as Mark Edson Dam and said reservoir as Mark Edson Reservoir." The reasons for this resolution are praiseworthy. I did not know Mr. Edson, but I'm sure his services to the District and good character were widely recognized. In any event, the suggestion being made in this letter must not be viewed as a reflection on Mr. Edson or the integrity of the GDPUD Board.

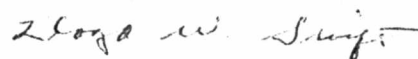
Briefly, the GDPUD Board is asked to reconsider the May 1960 resolution and take a somewhat different position--namely, to retain the name Edson for the dam and advocate the name Stumpy Meadows Lake for the 327-acre reservoir. There are several reasons for this proposal.

1. Stumpy Meadows has been in common use as a place name for over a century.
2. Georgetown Divide residents and others acquainted with the Pilot Creek section think of the area as Stumpy Meadows and many continue to use that term.
3. Articles in the county and Sacramento newspapers normally use both Lake Edson and Stumpy Meadows Lake, indicating that to many people the old name is more meaningful.
4. Before the dedication, GDPUD and all other agencies referred to the development as the Stumpy Meadows project. Perhaps some still do.
5. A number of residents in El Dorado County are in favor of restoring the name Stumpy Meadows Lake, and would support this action.
6. Honor to Mr. Edson's contributions and memory would be perpetuated in Edson Dam.

The Board on Geographic Names, U.S. Department of the Interior, has not taken a position on the name of the lake on Pilot Creek. This is a helpful situation, and will facilitate any consideration for adopting Stumpy Meadows Lake by that body.

It is believed that the proposal made in this letter is reasonable and that it will be favorably received in Georgetown Divide and elsewhere. However, should the GDPUD Board be disinclined to favor the name Stumpy Meadows Lake, I hope you will withhold action and let me and others have an opportunity to provide whatever additional data and reasoning you may desire.

Sincerely,



Lloyd W. Swift

cc: GDPUD Board Members

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APR 26 1972

4/23/72

Dear Leo:

Leslie Dingsman of the Board on
Geographic Names here in Washington, suggested
I send a copy of the enclosed letter to Mr
Robert Foley, Chairman of your Advisory Committee
on Geographic Names. Then it was pleased to find
you were also a member of the committee.

No doubt you know the Georgetown
Dwight area, and Lake Edson in particular. It
seemed to me there is a strong sentiment to
restore the Swampy Meadows Lake name - and I
have indicated the proposal at the local level.
The approach is to suggest the action on the
basis of historical use and persistent life in the
name, without pointing fingers or exercising
pressure, except to have local people express their
interest. I hope there will be success, and
also hope that the California Fish & Game Department
would favor the name SWAMPY MEADOWS LAKE.

Despite retirement from the Forest Service
nearly ten years ago, I seem to be fully occupied -
which is good.

All the best

Lloyd

25 p. 3. Green's will let T. know it was printed