

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

REGION 2

1701 NIMBUS ROAD, SUITE A
RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA 95670

(916) 355-7020



April 16, 1992

Mr. Henry Alden
Michigan-California Lumber Company
P.O. Box 486
Camino, California 95709

Dear Mr. Alden:

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has met with Mr. Ron Balderston of the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and discussed their proposal to change the location of a spillway on the Summerfield Ditch.

The proposed spillway is located in the Golden Meadow area on Michigan-California property. The existing spillway is located 0.5 to 0.75 miles downchannel at the head of a steep gully that flows into Soapweed Creek, a tributary to Slab Creek, and thence the South Fork American River. The gully is currently experiencing severe erosion due to unstable slopes as a result of the spillway discharges. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has recommended to EID that they seek another spillway location to alleviate this erosion problem.

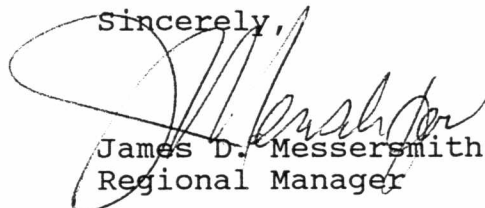
By mutual agreement between USFS, DFG, and EID, the Golden Meadow site was chosen for the new spillway. The new site is located at the base of the meadow. The turnout would allow the discharge to disperse over a wide area, thereby eliminating the chance of concentrated erosion. EID has stated that the discharge out of the spillway would never exceed five cubic feet per second (cfs). The discharge would occur for a maximum of 24 hours.

The DFG has recommended that EID place rocks at the base of the spillway to dissipate energy and spread the flow over a wide area to allow percolation into the wet meadow. EID proposes to dig two small channels below the rock energy dissipator to facilitate the percolation. However, should the spillway and discharge begin to erode and degrade the meadow, the DFG will seek remedial action.

Mr. Henry Alden
April 16, 1992
Page two

If the DFG can be of further assistance, please contact
Mr. Stafford Lehr, Fishery Biologist, (916) 355-7090, or
Mr. Jerry Mensch, Environmental Services Supervisor,
(916) 355-7030.

Sincerely,



James D. Messersmith
Regional Manager

cc: Mr. Ron Balderston
El Dorado Irrigation District
P.O. Box 1608
Placerville, California 95667

Mr. Raymond Laboa, District Ranger
U.S. Forest Service
El Dorado National Forest
Georgetown Ranger District
7800 Wentworth Springs Road
Georgetown, California 93634

✓ Mr. Stafford Lehr
Region 2

Mr. Jerry Mensch
Region 2