

OCT 23 1959

SUBDIVISIONS

HOMES OF DISTINCTION

LAND DEVELOPERS							
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME							
INLAND FISHERIES BRANCH							
OCT 23 1959							
REFER TO:							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
REVIEW				ACTION			
REPLY DATE				RECOMMENDATION			

Oct 21 1959

ARAM HAROOTUNIAN
 GENERAL CONTRACTOR
 Box 239 - Tel. Kimball 4-2092
 AL TAHOE (Lake Tahoe), CALIFORNIA

State Dept of Fish & Game.

Gentleman

I am unable to understand why it is now I haven't been able to find one minnow or small fish of any kind around my pier, ——— whereas before all the mud went in the water, thousands and I mean thousands of small fish was all around my beach at all times.

I always caught fish from 1 lb to 12 lbs from my pier, all of this year, Nothing, no self respecting fish waded try coming into the murky waters as me

have had in 1959.

Where did the fish go?

Responsible

Account

Region II
1001 Jedsmith Drive
Sacramento 19, California
November 3, 1959

Tahoe

Mr. Aram Harootunian
Box 239
Al Tahoe, California

Dear Mr. Harootunian:

Your letter of October 21, 1959, regarding the absence of fish around your pier at Lake Tahoe has been referred to this office.

As mentioned at the public meeting at Lake Tahoe on October 27, 1959, we do not have clear evidence on the possible repellant action of suspended solids to fish. It may actually vary depending on the physiological condition of the fish. They may be attracted by suspended solids if they are in condition to spawn and may be repelled at other times. Although non-spawning fish may be repelled, the evidence on this matter is not clear. The brown trout found in Lake Tahoe normally spawn at this time of the year and should be moving up the Upper Truckee now. Representatives of this Department have observed the fish in highly turbid waters in the Tahoe Keys area. We have not observed any fish killed due to the turbidity and have had no reports of a fish kill.

We have been closely observing the Tahoe Keys operation since the beginning of dredging in that area. We have not found that the operation is causing obstruction of the Upper Truckee. We have not found that there is siltation of gravel beds used by fish for spawning, and we have found no toxic action due to the suspended solids.

We are in sympathy with you in feeling that the turbidity which has been present this summer in Lake Tahoe's formerly crystal clear waters is objectionable; however, our jurisdiction is limited by the Fish and Game Code and does not cover aesthetic disturbances of the water.

We can assure you that if we find that the pollution is causing damage which comes under our jurisdiction, we will take action to correct the situation.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Montgomery
Regional Manager

WT/rm

cc: Jack T. Leggett, Evan T. Marsden