

# Memorandum

To : Chief of Operations

Date: January 12, 1978

From : Department of Fish and Game

Subject: East Park Reservoir, Colusa County and Black Butte Reservoir, Glenn County

*Note this was  
disapproved  
the issue is dead  
R.L.  
Pagan  
Honey*

The unprecedented drought eliminated the fisheries in East Park and Black Butte reservoirs. These two major reservoirs normally provide important fishing recreation programs in the February - June period.

Permission is requested to plant trout in these two waters to alleviate an unfortunate drought caused situation. We believe a diversion of up to 50,000 catchables (3% of our 1978 allotment) to these waters would be the best use of the hatchery product. The impact on our other programs would be minor. Because of the expected late spring, delayed planting in the Sierra Nevada trout waters, and advanced size of the catchables now in the hatchery, plants of catchables into valley waters will have to be expedited.

We have reviewed this matter with George McCammon and he is in agreement.

We do not believe a decision to plant trout in this system should be conditioned on any Federal agency participation. They, the Bureau of Reclamation at East Park and the Corps at Black Butte, are already funding recreation programs that greatly exceed our proposed trout plant cost. However, we expect to continue to urge that they and the local interest as well fund augmentation plants of trout.

A final decision on our trout plants will depend on field evaluations of reservoir water turbidity, reservoir spilling and other factors. Program evaluation will be included in the work objectives.

In our negotiations with the Federal agencies, local interest and others we will make it abundantly clear that this current trout program does not commit us in any way to a continuation of trout plants after the establishment of the warmwater game fish fishery which we expect to develop by the fall of 1979 from fingerling plants made in May 1978. We expect no problem in this regard.

*Robert W. Lassen*  
Robert W. Lassen  
Regional Manager  
Region 2

cc: IFB

Dis Approved J. Lerby Date JAN 20 1978  
*To discuss decision during our meeting*