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**Memorandum**

To : Chief of Operations

Date: May 19, 1980

From : **Department of Fish and Game**Subject: Letts Lake, Colusa County.

Subject 33 surface acre lake was built with WCB funds in early 1960s and has been managed with trout, both fingerlings and catchables, since that time. A study recently completed indicates over-winter trout survival is nil. This is due to the gradual eutrophication of the lake and the abundance of nongame fish (golden shiner). Several attempts to remove the nongame fish have not been successful due to the spring inflow and weed cover. Some filling in of the lake, reduction of spring inflows and removal of a floating bog island have all contributed to making Letts Lake less of a trout and more of a warmwater game fish environment.

Current management consists of catchable trout plants in the April-June period. These fish provide a popular fishery but by July the lake is too warm for continued plants.

We recommend largemouth and smallmouth bass be stocked in Letts Lake to make use of the abundant supply of forage in the form of golden shiners and crayfish. These game fish will support a fishery in the July-September period when use is heavy and trout fishing poor. We expect to continue a successful catchable trout program each spring.

We have reviewed this matter with the Inland Fisheries Branch.

*for*  
*R. Lassen*  
Robert W. Lassen  
Regional Manager

APPROVED:

*J. Leiby*  
James S. Leiby  
Chief of Operations

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 30 1980

cc: IFB

C. Von Geldern

J. Hansen

J. Ryan