



THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Fish and Game

March 6, 1963

Mr. Jim Freeman
4316 C Salem Street
Emeryville, California

Dear Jim:

In answer to your letter of February 24, we are happy to furnish you with the following information on Letts Valley Lake. This lake, now called Upper Letts Valley Lake, was built with Wildlife Conservation Board funds. The board received \$750,000 annually from the state's share of pari-mutuel funds, to be spent in developing capital outlay projects which provide access to wildlife areas or enhance wildlife habitat.

Upper Letts Valley Lake was completed in 1958 at a cost of \$23,308.29. The project consists of a dam and spillway, parking area, and access road. Prior to construction, the area was cleared of trees, stumps, and debris.

The United States Forest Service has constructed restrooms and camping facilities at the lake. You can obtain further details on this phase of the development by contacting the U. S. Forest Service, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco.

The WCB portion of the facility is maintained by Colusa County. The Department of Fish and Game allots 15,000 rainbow trout fingerlings and 5,000 rainbow trout catchables to this lake annually. Fingerlings are planted in the spring, and those planted this year will reach catchable size for the 1964 season. Although we have no catch statistics, from data obtained from the U. S. Forest Service we estimate that approximately 20,000 angler days were spent at this lake in 1962.

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Because Upper Lake has proven so popular, the WCB allocated \$39,500 in August of last year for construction of a second lake, to be called Lower Letts Valley Lake. Work will include construction of an earthfill dam 30 feet high and with a crest length of approximately 450 feet. It will impound about 20 surface acres of water. Colusa County has agreed to maintain this project when completed, and the U. S. Forest Service plans to relocate its road and provide a campground and other facilities.

As to chemical treatment, this has not been done by the department yet, but the department, in cooperation with Colusa County and the Forest Service, has discussed weed control and probably will implement a program if weeds threaten to cause a serious problem.

You may be interested in other wildlife Conservation Board projects, particularly where artificial lakes are concerned. I am enclosing a copy of the January, 1963, issue of Outdoor California, which contains a comprehensive report of the board's accomplishments to date. The part which relates to artificial lakes may be found in the chart at the top of Page 9.

I hope this material will be of help to you, and I wish you the best of luck with your fish-for-fun idea. If we can be of further service to you, please call on us.

Sincerely,

COPY ORIG. SIGNED BY
WM. C. DILLINGER

William C. Dillinger
Conservation Program Officer

Enclosure

cc: WCB
George Warner, Region 2

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