

EDMUND G. BROWN
GOVERNOR

WILLIAM E. WARNE
DIRECTOR



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Fish and Game

Redding, California,
P.O.Box 1687
July 7, 1959.

Mr. Richard Stevenson,
Supervisor Colusa County,
Court House,
Colusa, California.

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

After our discussion at the Kamloops Convention concerning the planting of trout in Letts Valley Reservoir, I discussed the situation further with my Fisheries Management personnel.

The report that you heard concerning the loss of fish after the plant that was made there late in June, was substantially correct. The load of fish contained both rainbow and brook trout fingerlings. Water temperatures in the lake were high at the time of the release. As far as we are able to tell, the majority of the fingerlings that failed to survive, were brook trout. This specie is more susceptible to high temperatures than are rainbow.

It is unfortunate that there was a loss of fish, but every attempt was made by the truck driver, and the other Department personnel, to make a successful introduction. On years of low water and high temperatures, there are apt to be instances where a calculated risk must be taken. After the truck driver has transported the fish for five or six hours, it is seldom possible for him to move on to another water, and it is almost never possible for him to successfully return to the hatchery.

Insofar as it is possible we try to predict the water condition ahead of time so that instances such as this would be at a minimum. You may be assured however, that the Department will continue with its fisheries management in such a way that satisfactory fishing will be established in Letts Valley.

We already have several suggestions from our field men for better methods of planting this lake, and some improvements in the lake itself, which would make it possible for the hatchery truck to approach deeper and cooler water when making its plants.

Very truly yours,

JDS:M
cc Robert D. Montgomery

JAMES D. STOKES,
Regional Manager, Region 1

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