

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Resources Building
9th and O Sts.
Sacramento, California 95814



May 14, 1965

FAF-California
D-J Project F-4-D, Stream and Lake
Chemical Treatment in our Region 2

Office of the Regional Director
Bureau of Sport Fisheries
and Wildlife
P. O. Box 3737
Portland, Oregon 97208

Att.: Branch of Federal Aid

Gentlemen:

Attached for your approval is a pretreatment form describing a proposed rotenone project at Upper Letts Lake, Colusa County.

The earliest that the work can possibly be done is May 20th. By detoxifying the lake about a week after treatment and immediately restocking with catchable-sized trout, the lake will provide high-quality angling during the popular summer school vacation period.

We were unaware of the serious deterioration of the angling quality in the lake until about a week ago. Creel checks on the opening day, May 1, showed no game fish and large numbers of golden shiners. A check with gill nets the following week also showed no game fish to be present despite the substantial stocking in previous years.

We request approval by wire, in order to carry out the work as planned.

Sincerely,

COPY ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
JAMES S. LEIBY

James S. Leiby
Administrative Officer

JHR:vj
Enc.

REGION II
DEPT OF FISH-GAME
RECEIVED

bcc: Deputy Director
Region 2 ✓
IF
RF

Upper Letts Lake Colusa Co
Region 2

The Resources Agency of California
Department of Fish and Game

STREAM AND LAKE REHABILITATION
Pretreatment Information

Date May 14, 1965

Name of water Upper Letts Lake County Colusa

Maximum surface area 33.2 acres Max. depth 16' Av. depth _____

Miles of stream None Stream flow _____

Use of water: Municipal _____ Stock _____ Irrigation _____ Other X

Was contour map prepared?: Yes X No _____

Adjoining land ownership: Public X Private _____

Is there public access by road? Yes

Number of established resorts None Number of boats None

Past fishery and management:

What were fishing conditions during past five years? The lake was created

in 1959. Trout fishing was very good until the Golden
Shiner was introduced. Trout fishing declined rapidly in 1964 & 1965.

Number of checks during this period Three

Results of these checks Shiners increasing, trout declining.

Plants during past five years (numbers and species) 1960 - 5005 RT-C, 7050 RT-F

3531 EBF; 1961, 14040 RTF; 1962, 2850 RT-C, 15000 RTF;

1963, 4591 RT-C, 15003 RTF; 1964, 4478 RT-C, 14000 RTF

Have any age-growth determinations been made? No

Species present RT

What are feelings of local residents on rehabilitation? Favorable.

VERBAL APPROVAL OF MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST RECEIVED

Name of local sports club NONE

Feelings of local sports club _____

Places and dates of public hearings _____

Toxicant ProNoxfish Amount 130 gal Concentration 0.05

Method of application Venturi + spraying of weed areas.

Is plan for complete kill? yes Or partial control? _____

Method of estimating kill Visual

Method of salvage and disposal of fish Sportsmen recovering the trout and CYA boys disposing of the shiners.

Estimated period of toxicity Five days

Measures proposed to protect downstream fishery or other fish, wildlife, and aquatic resources The lake to be drained one foot below spillway level and the valve closed.

Measures proposed to inform interested parties of treatment Announcements in three local papers

Will this project use D-J funds for materials and/or manpower? Yes X No _____

Remarks: After five days, 1700 pounds of potassium permanganate will be introduced to detoxify the rotenone. We expect to have the lake replanted with RT-C by June 10, 1965.