

Memorandum

To : Regional Manager, Region 2

Date: August 30, 1968

From : Department of Fish and Game

SFK

Best York

Subject: WP - Damsites on Stony Creek

The State Division of Soil Conservation has developed some reconnaissance level data on possible water storage sites on Stony Creek in Colusa and Glenn Counties. The project has since been scrapped due to the Department of Water Resources' plan for water routing through the Glenn Complex.

I thought since Letts Lake, Colusa County, has been such a successful trout fishery (golden shiners notwithstanding), the reservoir sites investigated by the Soil Conservation Division might be worthwhile as purely recreational lakes.

Of the ten sites investigated by the Soil Conservation Division, only three seem to offer a potential for a trout fishery. If the Glenn Reservoir were constructed, there would be little demand for an additional warmwater fishery.

The Red Bridge site would inundate our present catchable trout fishery and would require the most expensive dam due to the large flow fluctuations of Stony Creek in this area.

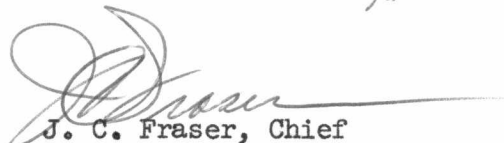
The Pleasant Valley site on the North Fork would create a reservoir of about 90 surface acres (2,700 acre-feet capacity) at a dam cost of \$1,000,000. Cost of the dam was computed at \$3 per cubic yard of earth fill for a dam with a 3:1 upstream and 2.5:1 downstream slope. Tree cover around the reservoir basin is sparse and road access is not presently available. The North Fork is a relatively open stream. On August 16, 1968, the water temperature at 1430 at the road crossing on the North Fork was 74° with the air temperature being 76°.

The Fouts Springs site would create a lake of about 260 surface acres (11,500 acre-feet) at a cost of \$2,000,000. The height of the dam would be 140 feet. The dam-site is located half way between Fouts Springs Valley and Red Bridge. The South Fork of Stony Creek goes dry on occasion at the damsite, but maintains a small rainbow trout fishery at all times in the areas above Fouts Springs Valley. The flow on August 15, 1968 at the Letts Ridge trail crossing was about 1 cfs. Water temperature at 1220 was 67°. Suckers, squawfish and rainbow trout were seen.

A large dam such as that planned by Soil Conservation would supply a considerable amount of trout angling but would also inundate the Fouts Springs Bays Camp, a tri-county institution. After looking over the area, it seems to me a smaller dam could be constructed in the South Fork canyon above Fouts Springs Valley to create

a 10-30 acre trout lake, which would more closely meet the angling demands and financial capacity of the area. In discussing such a project with the District Ranger, he felt the idea had merit but was more interested in a small reservoir in Summit Valley.

This information is passed along for your information. You may want to contact the Soil Conservation Division and/or the Forest Service to discuss this further if you feel that it would be worthwhile to encourage the development of additional fishing opportunities in this area. A large reservoir on the Fouts Springs site could be financed by Colusa County with EDA federal and Davis-Grunsky state aid to provide recreation and a good water supply for the Stonyford-Lodoga area. A smaller reservoir ~~could~~ ^{might} be financed by our Department, WCB or others.



J. C. Fraser, Chief
Water Projects Branch