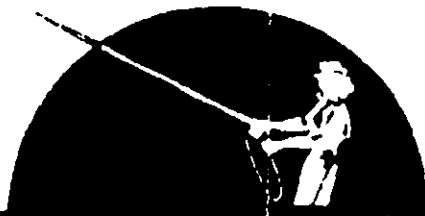


ORIGINAL



GOLDEN WEST WOMEN FLYFISHERS

June 13, 2007

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

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SECRETARY
2007 JUN 19 P 3 57
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: Don Pedro Project 2299

Dear Secretary Bose:

The Golden West Women Flyfishers (GWWF) is a 25-year old organization whose approximately 150 members are fly anglers predominately residing in Northern and Central California. GWWF is a member of the Northern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF) Conservation Network which includes approximately 30 fly fishing clubs in California and has worked with California Trout on a number of projects.

I am submitting this letter to provide comments on behalf of GWWF regarding the Tuolumne River Fisheries Study Plan currently undergoing review by the Commission.

I have personally fished the section of the lower Tuolumne in question and therefore have first hand experience of the wild fish in the river as well as the other wildlife in this unique riparian corridor of the Central Valley.

In reviewing the historical documents filed with the Commission pertaining to the restoration and stewardship of the lower Tuolumne, it is readily apparent to us that there has been a gross lack of effective conservatorship with regard to the salmonid populations, despite the efforts of so many agencies over the years.

We strongly urge the Commission to take the following critical items into account as it reviews the Study Plan in order to make much needed and meaningful improvements on the Tuolumne.

- ~~The flow schedules for the river are inadequate~~ for the salmonids, especially the Central Valley Steelhead population. ~~More flows will yield more healthy fish.~~
- ~~A comprehensive temperature study should be immediately undertaken~~ for the river in order to understand the relationship between salmonid populations and temperature.
- The Central Valley Steelhead population is a listed species, yet little is actually being done to document their life in the river or to enhance their survival. While the focus has been on the Chinook salmon, even that population is not thriving. A thorough salmonid population study should be undertaken.
- ~~There is no need for the introduction of a fish hatchery on the lower Tuolumne River. We know there are robust steelhead in the river, and if their environment was enhanced with better flow and temperature management enabling an overall better conditions for spawning and living, there is no doubt the steelhead population can expand without the overlay of hatchery fish. There does not seem to be adequate documentation of the current status of the fish populations, and therefore it certainly would not be prudent to introduce a new source of fish into the mix at this time.~~

We thank you for your careful consideration of these critical elements of a truly effective Study Plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy M. Charles
Conservation Chairperson

Golden West Women Flyfishers
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