

Edward McCracken
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P.O. Box 703
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Amador Water Agency
12800 Ridge Road
Sutter Creek, CA 95885

Gentlemen:

I would like to refer you to the "Standards of Significance" section, found on page 4.1-38 of your 4.1 Water Resources Report, in which you outline the impacts considered significant to the EIR.

By dewatering the South Fork of Jackson Creek you will indeed cause siltation, erosion and flooding along this waterway. Siltation naturally occurs when the flow of a stream or creek is reduced. As the foliage along the creek dies due to lack of water, organic matter will fill the stream bed. This matter will no longer be carried downstream daily by a perennial stream. As the creek bed fills, the chances of flooding during a major storm event is enhanced. There is little doubt that with this type of flooding will cause erosion along the stream bed. Sediment, organic material, limbs, brush, even trees, will be carried downstream to wreak havoc, possibly even endanger structures in Jackson and along the flood plane of the creek. What is the Water Agency going to do about removing dead foliage along the creek bed to prevent this type of flooding?

Of real concern are the springs and ponds that originate from canal leaks and seeps. Several of these springs and ponds are located on our ranch and contain numerous species of wildlife. According to personnel from the California Department of Fish and Game, the endangered pond turtle will most likely be found in our ponds. How are you going to mitigate in order to keep these springs and ponds alive?

Your final "Standard" is in regard to the depletion of groundwater supplies. The hydrologist hired by the City of Jackson found that over 40 percent of Carol Marz's well is water originating from the Canal. Her well is located several hundred feet below the canal. If it is so influenced, then how can you guarantee that the numerous wells located along the South Fork are not influenced by its waters. Are you going to hire a hydrologist to test these wells before you dewater the South Fork? If, indeed, it is found that there is a high risk of well failure after the creek is dewatered, how are you going to provide water to these homes and ranches?

Sincerely,



Edward McCracken