

SEARCH	FORWARD	FILE
	RECEIVED	
	OCT 4 - 2004	
	A.W.A.	

APN:42-010-038

September 26, 2004

Jim Abercrombie, General Manager
Amador Water Agency
12800 Ridge Road
Sutter Creek, CA 95685-9630

Dear Mr. Abercrombie:

We are ditch water and treated water customers and have some concerns regarding the Transmission Pipeline Project/Canal Life Extension Project. We ask that you take this information into consideration before making a decision regarding the Amador Canal piping and/or alterations.

Our property (12300 New York Ranch Rd.) has an existing stream that has run through this property for 40+ years. This stream appears to be fed by leakage from the existing canal and feeds into a pond that was on our property when we purchased it approximately twelve years ago. This pond has bass, catfish, wild ducks, geese, turtles, water snakes and otters. We have seen bobcats, deer wild turkeys and raccoons watering from this pond. Upstream there have been red salamanders and other aquatic life. This leak has created wildlife habitat and supports several different plant life, ferns and vegetation. This leak also supplies water to fishponds on the Jackson Rancheria, which is adjacent to our property.

When compiling information for the revised Environmental Impact Report and making decisions we would ask that you consider our concerns and what affect piping or altering the canal would have on the wildlife and aquatic life on our property and downstream properties. We are also concerned about the impact that piping or altering the canal may have on similar habitats created by leaks in the 23.5 miles of canal.

The real estate ad that lead us to this property said "year round stream and pond" and information that we received from old time families (Leslie Hartman and family, Oneto Family, Earl Dalton family members) was that this stream had run on the property for as long as they had lived on adjacent properties. This (year round stream and pond) was the determining factor in our purchase of this property. De-watering of this stream would negatively affect the value of our property.

We understand the need for water conservation and raw water quality. We ask that you take into consideration the ecological impact that piping or altering the canal would have, not only on our 40 acres but also all properties downstream leading to Jackson Creek and other property that would be adversely affected by these changes.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with your concerns or if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Mel & Candi Emerson

Mel & Candi Emerson
PO Box 85
Jackson, CA 95642