11/15/06 Bd Mtg Shasta River

Deadline: 11/1/06 12 pm

From:

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To: Date:

Mon, Oct 30, 2006 3:03 PM

Subject:

Comment Letter-Shasta River Watershed DO and Temperature TMDL's

To whom this may concern:

please consider this my comment letter for the Shasta River Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Regoin to Establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) for Dissolved Oxygen and Water Temperature in the Shasta River Basin.

I Joe Hostler, BS Tribal Natural Resource Management

Regarding Water Temperatures:

Some main contributors to Increased temperatures are decreased shade from Agriculture and decreased flow from Agriculture. The TMDL's should provide more water specifically when fish are migrating and also when air temperatures are highest. The main issue isn't necesarrily water quantity as much as it is timing of water need for fish and microrganisms. There should also be enough water flow to provide adequate loading capacity in which the water temperature will be cool enough to not only alow fish to survive but also thrive.

Regarding Dissolved Oxygen:

Some main contributors to decreased D.O. is from tailwater return from Agriculture, City of Yreka wastewater and Agricultural water diversions. The D.O. TMDL's need to ensure the strictest levels of margin of safety for fish and other organisms. Different stream reaches have different D.O. levels and areas with decreased D.O. should be emphasized. The TMDL shouldn't be a "cookie cutter" approach. It should be uniform but also dynamic enough to allow adjustments to improve the most troubled waters.

Over all, I believe that the TMDL's should consider not only Temperature and D.O. but all potential imparements to good water quality. All different TMDL catagories are not independent of one another, they are connected and effect each other. Next, I recomend encouragement for increased wetlands development in order to absorb nutrients and other pollutants. Also landowners should maintain 100ft buffers from stream channels. I also believe that there should be enforcement. Landowners and others whom don't participate or fail to meet goals, should be penalized through fines, denial of permits and other effective means.

There should also be TMDL's for nutrient levels and pathogens such as mycrocistin.

Please consider my recomendations to the amendments for Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen. Please also



consider my other suggestions that can help the entire ecosystem, not just Temperature and D.O. I encourage the Board to make the most of this opportunity to improve water quality in the Shasta River Basin and also the larger Klamath River Basin. The Klamath River Basin is in dire need of rehabilitation and the amendments should emphasize improvement of water quality over all other factors. Thanks for your time. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. Joe Hostler

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