

Parks, Jeff@Waterboards

From: Leonard Doten <leonardd@sonnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Parks, Jeff@Waterboards
Subject: Pinecrest Lake Level

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Dear Mr. Parks,

I wish to comment on the proposed action to increase the allowable drawdown of Pinecrest Lake during the recreational season in dry years. I live a few miles from Pinecrest but I am not a Tuolumne Utility District (TUD) customer and the water system I am on does not draw water from the Stanislaus watershed. I hope those who have supported the present restriction will also support the modification of it as they reasonably should. The present rule is obviously too blunt in view of the highly variable circumstances that are occurring now and have in the past.

There should not be any entitlement that places a higher value on a limited recreational use above the value of the ordinary lives of tens of thousands of people. Yes, like all Californians, TUD customers need to curtail their water use as they have shown a previous willingness and ability to do. A similar or greater curtailment of one of the recreational opportunities in Pinecrest should also be expected. Those activities should never be valued more highly than the lives of the non-transient population in the area who are dependent on the same water to have a somewhat customary existence.

Recreation is after all an optional activity. Conducting one's life from one's home in a restricted but largely conventional manner, or operating a local business is not. These day-to-day activities cannot just be suspended for the duration of the drought at no great cost - unlike surface water recreation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Leonard Doten

Cold Springs, CA