



DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

North Central Region

1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 358-2900



April 6, 2007

Mr. John Donlevy, City Manager
City of Winters
318 First Street
Winters, CA 95694

Dear Mr. Donlevy:

In May of 2006, The Department of Fish and Game (Department) was contacted by the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee (LPCCC) to discuss the potential removal of various fish passage impediments occurring within Putah Creek, Yolo County. The Department conducted site visits in conjunction with the LPCCC to identify appropriate fish passage remedies.

As a follow-up to the initial site visit of May 2006, on March 16, 2007, Mr. Michael Healey and Mr. James J. Navicky of the Department conducted a site visit to the "percolation dam" to evaluate its status with respect to its potential as a migration barrier. The percolation dam is a collapsed and abandoned structure occurring in the active channel of Putah Creek near the city of Winters California. The Department has determined that the percolation dam inhibits the migration of salmonids, both adults and juveniles, within Putah Creek due to obscure flows through the collapsed dam and due to the accumulation of debris against the dam.

The Department, in general, supports the removal of non-natural in-stream structures when these structures may impede salmonid migration, especially if these structures serve no biological utility. Removal of the percolation dam, as proposed by LPCCC will compliment many of the restoration projects already completed by the LPCCC. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Mr. James J. Navicky at (916) 358-2926.

Sincerely,

Kent Smith
Acting Assistant Regional Manager

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