

WHITE-WATER MITIGATION COMMITTEE
6320 Swainland Rd.
Oakland, CA. 94611

Phone: (415) 236-1828
Alternate: (415) 465-9355

George C. Weddell
Chief, Engineering Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Weddell:

The White-Water Mitigation Committee, acting for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has prepared final recommendations for mitigating loss of the Stanislaus River through inundation by the New Melones Dam.

These recommendations stipulate improvements for white-water recreation on the South fork of the American River, the Bear, Mokelumne, Yuba, Tuolumne, North fork of the Feather River, and Cache Creek. Collective mitigation is necessary, as there is no single river in California offering suitable replacement for the Stanislaus, currently California's most popular river for white-water rafting and kayaking.

Indeed, our first recommendation is to limit the size of New Melones Reservoir to allow continued river touring above Parrott's Ferry Bridge. We understand there is no justification for filling the reservoir to capacity within the next 25 to 50 years. As you know, a number of reservoirs in the country currently operate at reduced capacity to protect upstream social or environmental values.

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss plans for implementing the mitigation proposals. Copies of our report are being forwarded to Senators Tunney and Cranston, who have expressed interest in this matter, as well as to appropriate state and federal agencies.

We are grateful that the Corps recognizes the value of white-water recreation in California, and we trust every effort will be made to mitigate the destruction of the Stanislaus River.

We hereby submit our mitigation report and hope to meet with you -as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Dick Roberts, Chairman

David A. Kay, Member