



STANISLAUS CONFRONTATION LOOMS

ACTION ALERT

President Reagan should support the State's decision to limit the filling of New Melones Reservoir

AS GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA, REAGAN STATED "...I AGREE WITH THE BOARD'S DECISION (SWRCB D.1422)* WHICH REFLECTS CALIFORNIA'S DESIRE FOR A BALANCE BETWEEN REAL WATER NEEDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS."

President Reagan believes that, to the greatest extent possible, a state should control its own resources and programs. The Stanislaus River is the focus of a rapidly approaching showdown between the State of California and Federal bureaucrats who are ignoring a State decision and causing irreparable damage to our state's natural resources.

Write President Reagan today

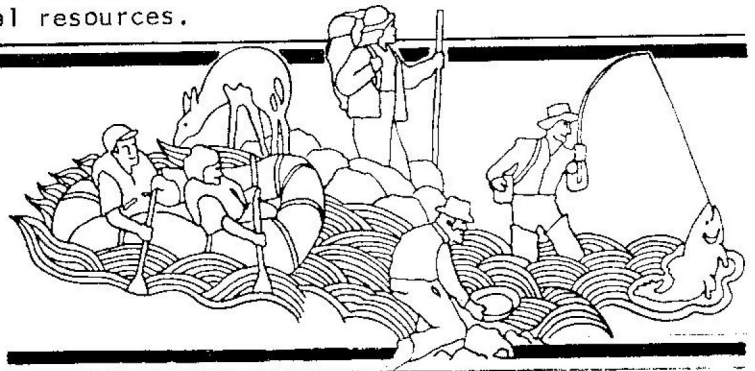
- ★ Ask him to order the Water and Power Resources Service (WPRS) to follow the State Board's decision.
- ★ Remind him that while he was Governor, his administration made a wise and important decision to uphold the right of a state to place restrictions on a Federal project.
- ★ Let him know that a California Resources Agency's report asserts that full operation of the reservoir will cost more to the government than the project benefits will return, and will thus be an additional drain on the tight federal budget. One factor is the heavy subsidies of the project's water.

write

telegram or send a public opinion message. 800-648-4100

President Reagan
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

- ★ Send a copy of your letter to the editor of your local newspapers.
- ★ Humor your friends into writing.



Why your action is needed now

There is hope that President Reagan will act to stop the filling. As Governor, he stopped dams on the Eel River; his SWRCB passed decisions protecting the Delta, the American River, and the Stanislaus. As is well known, Watt, the new Secretary of Interior is not an environmentalist. Therefore, we hope to convince him and the President of the economic and full resource utilization reasons for keeping New Melones at a limited storage. With enough of us getting to him, his common sense could prevail.

Around mid-March, the reservoir will rise above the 844' elevation that the state has set as a maximum.

Right now WPRS intends to raise the reservoir as high as possible. This means that the reservoir could extend four miles above Parrott's Ferry this summer.

Well-reasoned letters from fellow Californians for this "important state's rights issue" will help President Reagan focus on what could prove to be a very perplexing national issue.

If we can get at least a year's delay, 100,000 more people will get to visit and experience the wonders of the incredible Stanislaus River. Thousands more will know what a dam destroys.

*Decision 1422 limited storage in New Melones Reservoir because the State Water Resources Control Board decided that:
1) WAPRS had not proven a need for the water, and
2) the upper Stanislaus Canyon, which would be destroyed by full storage, is a "unique asset to the state and nation."
When WPRS presents contracts for the use of the water, the Board will have to decide whether the use of the water is of greater value than the preservation of the upstream canyon. The U.S. Supreme Court, in U.S. vs California held that decision 1422 is valid to the extent that it is not inconsistent with Congressional directives. The issue of consistency is still being argued in the courts, and in the meantime, WAPRS has refused to pay any attention to Decision 1422.