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June 29, 1998

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CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 115  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow

In 1947, my father, Professor John D. Black wrote the first textbook on conservation in this country. It was titled '*Biological Conservation*'. At that time no one was particularly concerned about conserving much of anything, and least of all the environment. It was not until 1952 that McGraw-Hill contacted my father, to inquire if he still had the manuscript. It was published in several languages and was still in use well into the late 1960's.

The proposal to raise the level of the Shasta Lake Dam underscores my late father's concern about our vanishing natural resources. Once taken away, like the old-growth timberland of the pacific northwest, or the burning of the tropical rain forest, they will never be replaced. Yes, you may attempt to justify the work by saying that the people need the water and power, but the justifications are weak and ill-advised.

My concern is for the McCloud River and it's surrounding ecosystem. Delicate and majestic, mixed with the balance that only Mother Nature can perform, it remains one of the few examples of a wild and pure environment in our State. Flooding the remaining few miles of the McCloud River for the questionable benefit of the water basin this project would provide is unthinkable.

I must protest any use of my tax dollars to destroy an area of such striking natural beauty and peace. Do not let the momentum of the study and work which has been invested thus far, continue any longer. It is far better to seek other means of solving the problem, than to create havoc upon this delicate and irreplaceable resource.

Sincerely,



Fred Black  
5446 Eighth Street #10  
Carpinteria, CA 93013

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DEPARTMENT OF  
RESOURCE  
SACRAMENTO

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