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CIVIL ENGINEERS & LAND SURVEYORS

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JUL 13 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
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This letter is in response to CalFed's proposal to raise Shasta dam and thereby increase water storage, which will inundate portions of the McCloud, Upper Sacramento and Pitt rivers.

It appears that there is existing legislation that was enacted specifically to protect rivers such as the McCloud and preserve them in their natural and wild state. I am referring to the Wild And Scenic Rivers Act. What good is this legislation that was approved by the people of California if it can be violated in favor of southern California urban and agricultural interests, or for any reason. How do you justify this?

The same principal applies to the Coordinating Resource Management Plan; the coordinating group of which is a Federal, State and private party partnership which is responsible for managing the resources of the McCloud river. Again, how do you justify overriding the objectives of this partnership?

I am a member of the Bollibokka fishing club and am familiar with the lower McCloud river. Much of this area is steep canyon. The sides are very steep. If the Shasta reservoir is allowed to encroach into this area, there will be serious erosion of the steep banks due to the destruction of vegetation and the variation of water depth. Also, numerous natural barriers to the encroachment of trash fish will be lost and the natural and wild fishery, as we know it today, will be lost.

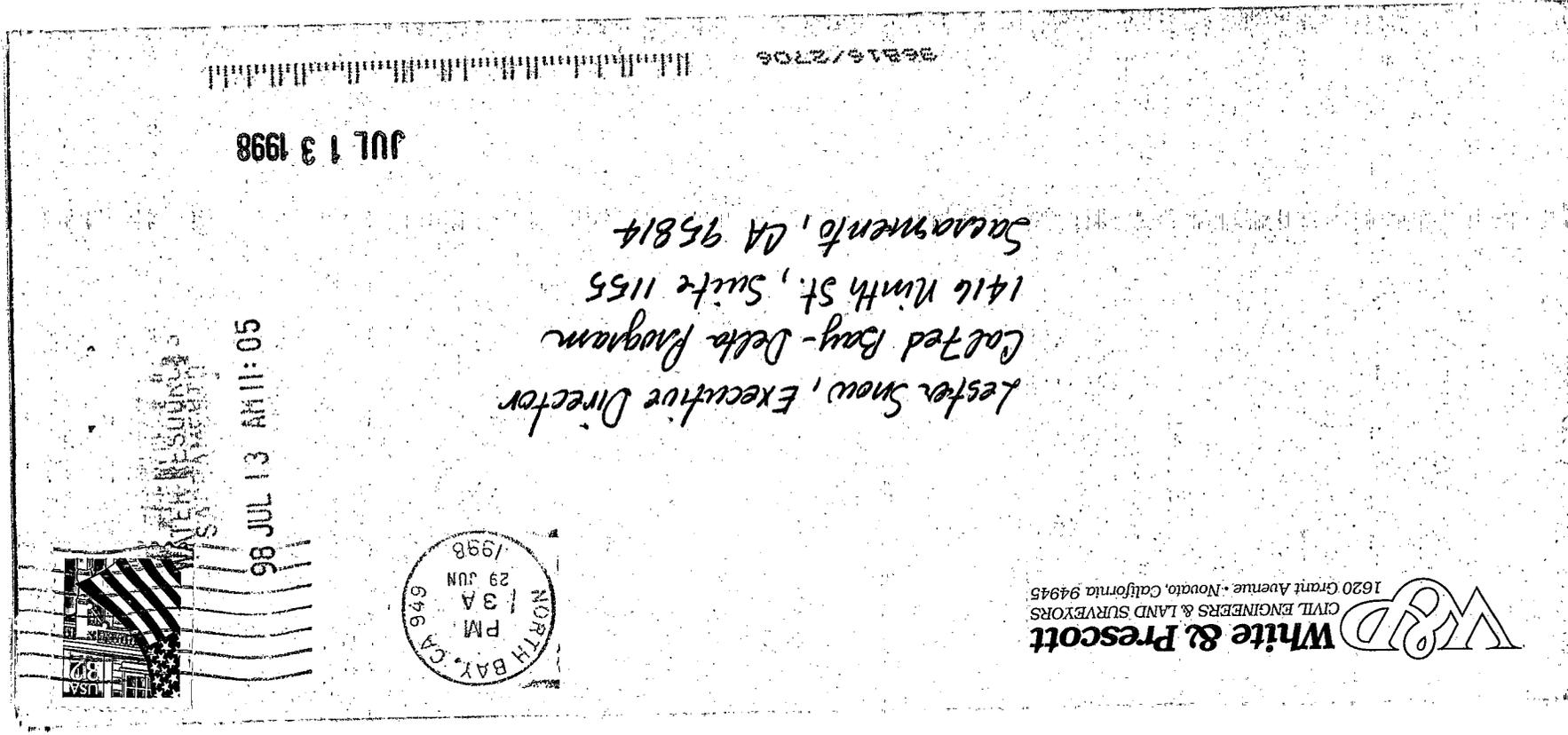
The political power of southern California should not be allowed to compromise degrade, or destroy any natural resources in northern California. What is lost is lost forever. We humans seem to have a propensity for destroying "little bits" of the environment for a "more compelling" reason. But the "little bits" accumulate and we are slowly but surely compromising the environment. It is time for the environment to play a much more important role in the planning of the CalFed Program.

Sincerely,

Martin Prescott
Professional Engineer
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