



## The Storm Aquarries Plan (Booth 5) (/initiative/4Wkn/the-storm-aquarries-plan-booth-5)

This is a plan to remodel the existing Felton Diversion Dam so that it collects heavy storm flow water and pumps it up to the abandoned Olympia and Hanson Sand Quarries, where the water would be treated and stored. Both areas would be transformed into recreational areas open to the public year round.

*Submitted by Bill Smallman*

### Comments

Chris Berry 3w, 6d ago

SUGGESTION

FYI, while this idea (continues to) deserve attention, there is no existing Zayante Diversion and the quarries have Endangered Species Act - related reclamation requirements which might complicate this proposal.

Bill Smallman 3w, 5d ago

Chris, The photo above is a picture of the existing Zayante Diversion Dam. The reason why Desal was preferred over the Alternatives were because of policy changes like getting a variance on the "Endangered Species Act". The species

that I hear often about is the "June Beetle". I suggest some day you visit these quarries and ask yourself if it is more beneficial for the environment to fill these areas with water, or keep a desert like area for the June Beetles?

Chris Berry2w, 6d ago

Bill - That's actually the "Felton Diversion", though the picture is from the Zayante trail and it was intended to serve the Zayante Reservoir back when it was built (hence the empty pump pedestals). Semantics, I suppose!

Bill Smallman2w, 3d ago

Chris, Sorry, you are right. I mistakenly been calling it the Zayante diversion. Anyway, my plan is to modify the Felton Diversion shown in the picture. It is below the confluence of Zayante and Bean Creeks.

Bill Smallman2w, 3d ago

Chris, Sorry, you are right. I mistakenly been calling it the Zayante diversion. Anyway, my plan is to modify the Felton Diversion shown in the picture. It is below the confluence of Zayante and Bean Creeks.

Jean Brocklebank3w, 2d ago

CON

Pump water uphill? Deprecating remarks about endangered species and wildlife habitat in general? There are those of us who know that humans are not the only species on this planet; they just act like it. Frankly, I hope the WSAC does not forget that what we do for ourselves is not the beginning and end of the water conversation.

Bill Smallman3w, 2d ago

NEUTRAL

Jean, I respectfully feel that I did not make any depreciating remarks about wildlife and do not act humans are the only species on the planet. I am both an Environmentalist and a Civil Engineer. I tried really hard to find solutions that will provide enough water with minimal impact on the environment. Yes, the water will be pumped uphill, for only 20-60 days a year. The pumps could run on bio-diesel. The quarries are scared pieces of land, and yes I do think it is worth making the environmental compromise to create reservoirs on these properties, rather than leave them be. The ground water basin in this area is 200 feet lower than normal, and this is next to a key area for the fish habitat. The reservoirs will percolate a significant amount of water into the ground, which will keep these waterways with water year round.

David Faulkner 3d, 8h ago

CON

Guys. Listen. You really have to leave the riparian zones and endangered species habitat alone. This kind of thinking is 70 years old.

Bill Smallman 2d, 20h ago

The net effect on the riparian zone in this area from this plan is all positive. Moreover, using the endangered species argument in every single land area is not allowing solutions that not only provide more water but actually help the environment even more. These quarries are heavily scared pieces of land. And if they were transformed into reservoirs, they would create benefits to a larger majority of animals instead of the so called endangered June Beetle which can still thrive on the numerous sand fields nearby. We pollute the entire water shed with silt and septic, and drain the ground water basin. This is far more devastating for the environment, which this plan addresses.

Theryl McCoy 2d, 14h ago

When you make statements like "the 'so called' endangered June Beetle..." it only affirms your ignorance to what endangered species habitat is. It's not about the species, it's about habitat being able to support the species. Are you saying the creation of a reservoir is going to benefit deer? Well, I agree with you there.

It's really horrible that this drought has caused these horrible ideas to be force fed to the public all in the name of water scarcity (prop. 1 2014). Transients to California (including agribusinesses) need to learn how to live in a drought prone area. It's not that difficult.

Bill Smallman 1d, 23h ago

Ignorant about what? Yes, the June Beetle Habitat in the Sand Quarry would be gone. They came back after the heavy equipment left. They don't live under water, but they are found in all the surrounding Sand Hill Habitat areas around these quarries. Not just deer. Name any species that lives around Loch Lomond in and out of the water. In addition, the reservoirs restore the ground water basin. The drought and all the people sucking the ground water basin dry will cause pools in the river to dry up too quickly in the summer wiping out the Coho/Salmon habitat. If this idea is so horrible, it is to support your fantasy that the current population can endure the drought with conservation and not use up the ground water, all in order to save the sand quarry use by the beetles, not by people.

Fred Martinez 2w, 6d ago

Not enough room at the quarries to make a difference and during high flow turbidity it would be useless.

Bill Smallman 2w, 3d ago

Beg to differ. There is plenty of room at the quarries and the water is less expensive to treat than Desal.

Jan Karwin 2w ago

NEUTRAL

This proposal is worthy of further research and evaluation by the panel of experts.