From:	Tom Barnes
To:	Don Bunts; Catherine Diane Glick; Marlie Long; Thomas Taylor
Subject:	Fwd: NOP comments
Date:	Thursday, February 02, 2017 7:32:57 PM

Tom Barnes
323-829-1221 cell
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: George Sutherland <scgsland@gmail.com>
Date: Feb 2, 2017 3:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: NOP comments
To: Tom Barnes <TBarnes@ESASSOC.COM>
Cc: George Sutherland <scgsland@gmail.com>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** George Sutherland <scgsland@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 2, 2017 at 3:08:08 PM PST
> **To:** George Sutherland <scgsland@gmail.com>
> **Subject: NOP comments**
>
> Dear Tom,
>
> On behalf of the South Coast Chapter/Trout Unlimited I submit the following comments:
>
> Due to the listing of Southern Steelhead, under the Federal ESA in 1997 and release of NOAA's Recovery Plan in 2012, our number one concern is fish passage.
> The proposed rubber dams in phase 0ne, up to three, and in later stages, seven or more, must be made fish friendly and passable, especially during spawning migration seasons, November through May dependingg on the rainy season? As discussed, the flushing flows at some point will breach the beach berm at which time in-migrating fish could opportunistically migrate up the watershed to preferred spawning areas that we believe are in the Cleveland National Forest? So, until meetings are held with CDFW, NOAA and USFWS to discuss fish passage other habitat, and water quality needs, we oppose the current plan.
>
> Orange County and it's Watershed Division has been actively involved in the Intigrated Regional Watershed Management Program for several years now so we feel it's imperative that these lower watershed projects be "integrated" into the IRWMP. Show us how this is being accomplished?
>
> Groundwater recharge must meet the quality standards required by NOAA,

CDFWS and USFWS
regarding acceptable needs for steelhead and other aquatic species.

A water quality monitoring system and possibly a Didson Sonar device to monitor in and out migration of fish? This would benefit the collection of data for everyone and help reduce the cost
of rubber dam inflation and deflation when not needed. something to discuss with the Resource Agencies.

Flow management would help with both fish migration and groundwater recharge if it can be managed at most beneficial levels. Some minor refusia sites need to be incorporated into the concrete channel to allow the fish the opportunity to move and rest during their migration.
The five rip rap flow reducing structures put in the lower channel of Trabuco from the confluance
up past del Obispo need to be modified for fish passage.

Cause and effect:" The watershed needs to be managed from the top down.
All of the improvements being considered by The Basin Plan, desalination plant and County Flood all happen in the lower Four miles of the watershed but the watershed is Twenty nine miles long with two major tributaries, San Juan and Arroyo Travuco as well as some smaller ones.
All of these have a "collection effect'"on the total rainfall and all contributes to what comes out the bottom.
WE recommend a complete watershed survey be conducted to determine what can be done in the upper and middle watershed to better manage all the water and habitat needs throughout
the entire watershed, improving aquifer capture, flood avoidance, property loss and habitat needs.

Sincerely,

George Sutherland, Project Coordinator
South Coast Chapter, Trout Unlimited