

SITES
RESERVOIR
PROJECT

**CERTIFIED
ORIGINAL**

**RDEIR/SDEIS
VIRTUAL
PUBLIC MEETING**

Thursday, December 16, 2021

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Sara Katz,
Meeting Moderator

Aly Forsythe,
Sites Environmental Planning and Permitting
Manager

Vanessa King,
Bureau of Reclamation

Sarah Rossetto,
Q&A Monitor

Mike Hendrick,
Fisheries Biologist

1 over another. We're prioritizing the interest of
2 wealthy farmers and those who are connected against the
3 interest of the environment, the fish populations.
4 People enjoy, you know, natural flowing waters, and
5 those who don't have quite the connections of the
6 farmers seem to have -- where most -- I guess, from what
7 I understand, most of this water's going to be going to.
8 And very much against taking public water and putting it
9 on private property for private people to make a profit
10 on, especially when they're growing crops that probably
11 shouldn't be grown where they're being grown. So,
12 that's pretty much my thoughts.

13 SARA KATZ: Thank you, Garbin.

14 Our next speaker is Danielle Frank. Danielle,
15 if you could spell out your name and your organization
16 you are affiliated with, and you are unmuted.

17 DANIELLE FRANK: Hi. My name is Danielle
18 Frank. I'm calling from the Hupa Valley Indian
19 Reservation, where I've been raised since childhood and
20 I'm a tribal member. I'm calling because this proposed
21 project cannot go through. There are just too many
22 issues with it.

23 For starters, not the -- not only does it
24 endanger the salmon population that is already
25 depleting, thanks to diversion and other issues, it will

1 also flood three creeks, further harming the salmon runs
2 and harming an important food source. For Natives --
3 for Native people, salmon holds a cultural significance
4 that native -- non-natives can't even begin to grasp.

5 This is more than just environmental
6 injustice. It's also an injustice against a group of
7 people who have been discriminated against by this
8 country since the beginning of modern day American
9 civilization. Not only is this project putting our
10 sacred salmon in danger, it will also be going through
11 three different -- it will be going through different
12 ceremonial sites. It will be digging up Native American
13 Cer -- Native -- Native American cemeteries, which
14 the -- is -- I kind of -- I'm not sure how that's okay
15 with people to be digging up bones of our ancestors that
16 we've laid to rest.

17 And it -- it -- it goes against everything
18 that Indian people stand for, and I'm urging you guys to
19 listen to the Native voices that have come to speak
20 today, because we -- that's how -- that's the only way
21 that these salmon population are gonna be saved, and
22 they do hold more of a significance to us than just food
23 source. So we -- we're here to speak for them. And I
24 thank guys for your time and for your consideration in
25 listening to this.

1 SARA KATZ: Thank you, Danielle.

2 Our next speak every will be Benjamin Lord.

3 Benjamin, if you could spell your name, any organization
4 you may be representing, and you can unmute yourself.

5 BENJAMIN LORD: Hi. Can you hear me?

6 SARA KATZ: We can.

7 BENJAMIN LORD: Great. My name is Benjamin
8 Lord, B-e-n-j-a-m-i-n, space, L-o-r-d. I'm gonna be
9 brief. I'm not a water scientist or a -- a Sacramento
10 bureaucrat or -- or, you know, a farmer. I'm just
11 someone who loves visiting the Trinity. I go there
12 every year. It's one of my favorite places on earth. I
13 think it's an incredibly special place, the Trinity and
14 the -- the Middle Klamath Watershed. And this project
15 gives me real pause, because it affects almost certainly
16 a place that is incredibly dear to me.

17 I look at the history of the Klamath Dam
18 removal fight and how it has dragged on and on and on
19 and these kinds of projects, once they're done -- I
20 appreciate that a lot of hard work has gone into this.
21 A lot of staff members have worked very, very hard on
22 putting this proposal together. As hard as it is to do,
23 it's even harder to undo, and we should think about that
24 in the event that we realize years down the line that
25 there was some kind of mistake in our calculations, that