

RJB received
2/4/05

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Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2005 12:29 PM
Subject: RE: PLEA TO PROTECT THE PECOS RIVER

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January 26, 2005

Dear ALL!

This is an urgent plea for help. I know that you must get dozens of these a day, but this is a keystone to solving a huge loss of water in the Pecos River and protecting the aquifers in Texas for the future.

My parents, Donald and Bertha Howell, live in the small community of Grandfalls, Texas located about 85 miles southwest of Midland, Texas. They have been working on ways to rebuild the old Zimmerman Dam that washed out in 1941, and for the last three years have spent quite a bit of their own money to promote this by petitions and collecting endorsements from the local people and government entities in the area. People are shocked to learn that the precious water is slowly seeping away and the local water boards do not seem to give a hoot or holler. They continue to collect their salaries but ignore anything productive to the area. They have become belligerent when questioned on policy also.

I have a web site that sums the information up, and can send you a CD and pictures of the proposals to rebuild the watershed and promote economy of the area. That website is www.dontwastetexas.com <<http://www.dontwastetexas.com/>>

Recently I added some photos of what we could do with the ol' river to promote the local economy with recreational activities such as fishing, hunting, water sports, and picnics.

SISP Review Complete
Template = ADM-013

E-RIDS = ADM-03
Add:
M Wong (MCW)
T. Johnson (TCJ)
C. Schulte (CLSI)

This is a slow seepage of the vital life blood that provides drinking water for most of Texas. Should you look on a map, you will see that Pecos River feeds from the Ogallala aquifer volume into the Panhandle of Texas and Southeastern New Mexico. The Monument Alluvial and Pecos Alluvial drain into the Pecos, and continues into the upper part of old Mexico. By placing a retaining dam or series of dams into the Pecos River, the water would essentially back up into the aquifers and replace the water loss. This also allows communities to have the plentiful water they enjoyed in previous years without the expense of purchasing water from outside sources.

An editorial in The Monahans News on 5/29/03 titled Efforts to Save Aquifers Wise states "Howell's plan for the Pecos, which foresees the rebuilding of Zimmerman Dam that washed out in a 1941 flood and a series of other dams that would hold water coming down the Pecos back in a small lake-like impoundment, should be called "visionary". He foresees a Pecos River that not only can sustain life and agriculture for an area encompassing 10 counties, 11 cities and seven irrigation districts, but a vital resource that could spark a new recreation area for this vast region of the state that so many people west of Abilene write off as "meaningless" and "desolate" or worse."

The Odessa American ran a story on Daddy called Man on a Mission to replenish Pecos River, July 20, 2003, where he is quoted to say "By slowing the Pecos in West Texas, the precipitation that falls within the 29,000-square-mile Pecos River Watershed would be preserved, Howell said. Without a dam, "any rainwater we catch falls on in and goes down the river," Howell said. "That's the purpose of the dam." As an added bonus, Howell said the weight of water collected behind the dam would "push back" water into the overused aquifers, which rely solely on rainfall for their recharge. The payoff could be the rebirth of the Pecos Valley, he said. "Maybe I have visions of grandeur," he said. "But there are a lot of things that could happen if we got it full. We could capitalize on the fact that we have enough surface water. Plus the fact that we might get a certain amount of (groundwater) recharge over a certain amount of time." A recharge would help stabilize groundwater supplies in the 10-county Pecos River Valley, including part of Ector County, Howell said. And higher river levels would lure more boaters and anglers to the region than the low-running river attracts now."

Our water is also under threat of being poisoned from nuclear waste being stored at the Waste Isolation Pilot Project in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Pete Dominici, Democrat from New Mexico, has outlined a nuclear corridor in New Mexico that will eventually dump the radionuclides into our water. He has encompassed the help of removing and storing the waste in Texas. The Louisiana Energy Services has petitioned for a license to produce a Uranium Enrichment Plant at Eunice, New Mexico. Waste Control Specialists of Texas is working on a license to store low-level radioactive material at its location outside Andrews, Texas.

The following map shows the exact locations:

The purple on this map is the Trinity- Edwards Watershed, the lighter blue is the Lindreth- Monument Alluvial and the Pecos Alluvial, the darker blue is the Ogallala. Both LES and WCS have concluded there is no water at their particular chosen sites, but this map clearly shows to differ.

The next picture speaks for itself:

The Louisiana Energy Service Company (LES) was thrown out of AL, out of Erwin, TN, out of Hartsville, TN. It wasn't even allowed to work in Louisiana. It just happened to land on us, for the time being. By promoting the reconstruction of the old Zimmerman Dam we can defeat the soiling of our water from the nuclear waste and provide for healthy drinking water for future generations.

These following projects have been proposed to the economic development board in Grandfalls, There are endorsements from surrounding communities:

I am begging you to stand with us and use whatever influence you can to stop the unnecessary waste of our resources and provide assistance to protect and rebuild our communities and watershed.

Sincerely,

Karen Keith

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806-467-1703

www.dontwastetexas.com <<http://www.dontwastetexas.com/>>

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Subject: RE: PLEA TO PROTECT THE PECOS RIVER
Creation Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2005 12:28 PM
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