

## **2007 Lake Aloha Spill Monitoring Report Project 184**

El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) is providing this report in accordance with Condition 33 of the United States Forest Service (FS) 4(e) Conditions, Condition 4 of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) 401 Water Quality Certification, and the FERC Project 184 License Article 401.

These Conditions require EID to "operate Lake Aloha to attempt to prevent water in the reservoir from spilling over Auxiliary Dams 1-7 during spring runoff and while the reservoir is filling, recognizing that Auxiliary Dam 6 is designed to function as Lake Aloha's spillway..... The licensee shall annually, by July 30, produce a monitoring report documenting whether spill occurred over the Auxiliary Dams and whether trout were found and removed."

Preventing spills at Lake Aloha presents a continual challenge as Lake Aloha is located in the Desolation Wilderness Area of the Eldorado National Forest, at an elevation of 8114 feet. EID is authorized to make one flight per year into Desolation Wilderness to maintain Project Facilities at Lake Aloha. Therefore, access for normal operations such as access to the outlet works to adjust flows is accomplished by a ten mile hike (round trip), frequently by snowshoe.

On June 2, 2007, telemetry equipment at the Lake indicated a spill situation triggering the following events:

6/5/07: Notification of spill and required plan was sent to FS, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and SWRCB

6/07/07: EID staff accessed the Lake by snowshoe and successfully adjusted the outlet flows.

6/8/-07: Lake Aloha spill ceased.

6/14/07: Spill details were shared with the Ecological Resources Committee (ERC) at their regular meeting. The Lake Aloha Trout Removal and Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog (MYLF) Monitoring Plan was approved by the ERC.

7/06/07: Plan approval letter was received from FS.

7/16/07- 7/20/07: Trout surveys were performed utilizing methods outlined in the plan. Two brook trout were found and removed from the lowest main pond. This is the same pond in-which two brook trout were located and removed in 2004.

EID is continually monitoring, evaluating, and improving project operations to eliminate spills at the Lake Aloha Dam.