

SAVE THE CANAL

www.savethecanal.INFO | www.gofundme.com/savethecanal

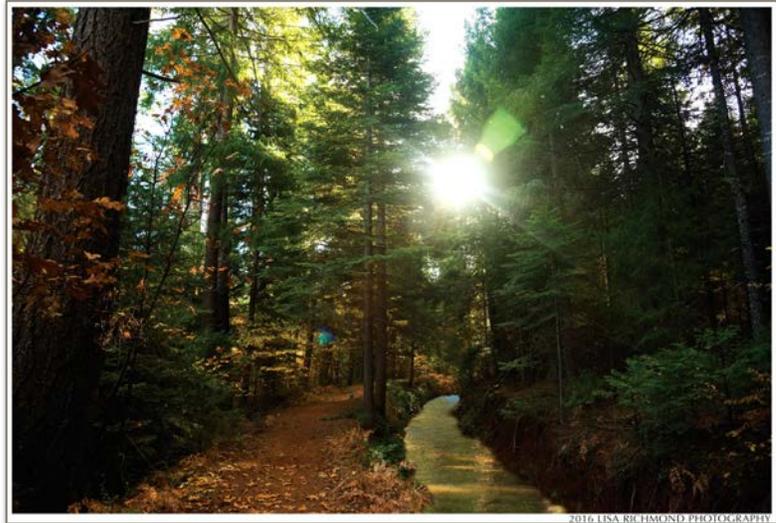


**HELP SUPPORT
OUR LEGAL FUND**
[WWW.GOFUNDME.COM/
SAVETHECANAL](http://WWW.GOFUNDME.COM/SAVETHECANAL)

We are only **\$14,328** away
from our goal

What can I do to help?

- Donate! ANY donation large or small will help us meet our legal fees.
- Join the Mailing list on our [website](http://www.savethecanal.INFO) for up to date information.
- Find us on Facebook: @ [Save the Canal](https://www.facebook.com/SaveTheCanal)
- Come to our meetings. Mondays at 6pm @ Pollock Community Center. Check our website to confirm each week.
- Show your support for Save the Canal and our community with our easily removable bumper stickers donated by Michael.
- Really Important: Once the EIR draft (Environmental Impact Report) comes out in early February, help by writing a letter expressing your concerns during the public comment period. We will have a Town Hall Meeting to show you how easy it is to help.



The El Dorado Canal in Pollock Pines has been a place for our community, both young and old, to walk, jog, bike and and be in the quiet of nature for over 150 years.

"Every time I talk about where I grew up, I talk about "the 'creek' below my house", and my mind flashes right back to it. I have so many wonderful memories of it - light coming through the trees, the amber color of the sun, through the water. Crawdads, blackberries, big leaves, dogwood trees, time with my parents, and now, time with my own kids, there."

Melissa Kelsey

Hello from Save the Canal

We have been working tirelessly since the Town Hall Meeting in early November. The Environmental Impact Report release date has been delayed 3 times by EID in response to our efforts to expose their inadequate consideration of the environmental impacts, project costs and possible alternatives while exaggerating the benefits of this proposed project. EID has been spreading false information claiming "multiple mattresses, many car tires, and a variety of toys" are thrown into the ditch. For those of us who live up here and use the trail daily, we know this to be a desperate attempt to gain public support down the hill. Do you really think they have been serving contaminated water all this time? Our group is well organized and has members with diverse backgrounds and will be challenging this project from many fronts.

Here is a sample of our current efforts:

Legal Defense: We have retained an attorney that will be representing us in court. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides a platform for us to challenge many aspects of this proposed project. We have also set up a **gofundme** account (www.gofundme.com/savethecanal) to accept donations to our

Economics

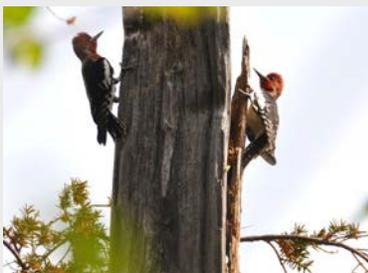
The upper Main Ditch Piping Project does not make fiscal economic sense. The proposed project cost will add at least \$5 million dollars to the already excessive \$375 million EID debt. EID has doubled customer's rates over the past decade due to the continued wasteful spending and the ever increasing debt payments. Now EID plans to raise rates each of the next 4 years - so YOU will be paying for the destruction of this valuable resource. Just say "NO"!

Fire Fighting Resource

At the recent town hall meeting EID director Osborne claimed that the Upper Main Ditch (El Dorado Canal) was not a viable resource to be used in fire suppression efforts and therefore would not need to have project considerations to mitigate that loss of resource. We have strong evidence to refute this claim - In fact the El Dorado Canal may have already served a critical role in saving your home during the King Fire!

Tree Mortality

EID claims that the project will result in the loss of 200 trees. While this would be tragic, the real number will be much higher. We will be laying out the case that thousands of trees will be lost, all of which are on private property.



legal defense fund. We have currently received over \$9000 in donations, with a final goal of \$25,000 to ensure our victory in court.

Critical Riparian Habitat: Although the El Dorado Canal is a manmade waterway, it has been flowing for more than 150 years allowing for the development of a rich riparian habitat. These stream-side habitats are among the most diverse and productive ecosystems on Earth and they support a myriad of plant and animal species. EID's proposed piping plan would permanently destroy this valuable ecological resource. Save The Canal includes members with expertise in forestry and environmental science that will demonstrate that this project would result in significant and unavoidable environmental impacts that cannot be adequately mitigated.

Lack of Proper Easements: EID claims to have extensive easements, for wide ranging purposes, on many private properties along the canal. That is a false claim and they know it. They sent representatives to each property owner in an attempt to attain the required easements, but most property owners have refused to grant it to them. Therefore their only recourse will be Eminent Domain lawsuits, the cost of which will be an added burden on EID ratepayers.

Water Loss: EID claims that the upper main ditch loses 1300 acre feet of water annually despite several studies performed by contracted companies that contradict that number. They knowingly use this inflated water loss number to justify the cost of the piping project and when applying for grants. Save The Canal will demonstrate that EID's exaggerated water loss numbers are based on equipment with known calibration problems and a flawed study design which fails to adequately address seasonal variations and raw water customers that draw directly from the ditch.

Water Quality: EID would like you to believe that piping the upper main ditch will result in improved water quality and a safer water supply. They further claim that the piping project will result in lower treatment costs. However, this project will do nothing to address the miles of open ditch upstream or the direct inputs into Forebay Lake. Save the Canal will make the case that the required water treatment process and the cost will remain basically unchanged and there will be no improvement to the quality of the delivered drinking water to justify the project cost, which is paid for by rate payers.

History: Preserving this historical landmark is one of our goals. To this end we are applying to the California Historical Landmark and California Points Of Interest. Either of these organizations will permanently protect the canal from further EID conversions. We are also applying to the National Register Of Historical Places which will put this canal under federal protection. Our historic committee has done extensive historical research to help facilitate this nomination and acceptance.

