

SC (co) water
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Zayante Dam Most Economically Feasible Water Project For Valley, Reports State Engineer

By Fred Jenkins

While the proposed Zayante creek dam and reservoir is the recommended supplemental water storage project in the San Lorenzo unit, there are four other possible dam sites in the unit which could be utilized.

This was the declaration last night of Albert J. Dolcini of Sacramento, associate hydraulic engineer of the state department of public works, at the San Lorenzo valley chamber of commerce meeting in Ben Lomond. Carl Conelly presided. (Story on business meeting in another article.)

Dolcini presented an interesting review of the forthcoming report of the Santa Cruz-Monterey counties water survey by the state water resources board, with particular emphasis on the San Lorenzo unit study.

He said the report is now on the desk of State Engineer A. D. Edmiston for final review. When necessary corrections are made, the report will go to the state printer. Dolcini said it is expected the report will be formally released late this summer.

The Zayante project is one of the six recommended in the survey for initial work as the most economically feasible, from the engineers' standpoint, Dolcini said. The five others are the Archibald reservoir on Scott creek in the north coastal unit; Doyle Gulch, Glenwood and Upper Soquel reservoirs in the Soquel unit; and Watsonville reservoir in the Pajaro unit, which includes northern Monterey county.

The Zayante reservoir is scheduled to have a capacity of 6900 acre-feet of water with a safe seasonal yield of 3900 acre-feet. The engineer pointed out that three acre-feet are equivalent to one million gallons and that the Zayante reservoir could hold 2,300,000,000 gallons. "This could serve the valley and Santa Cruz for years," he said.

Stressing that cost figures at present are preliminary and subject to revision, Dolcini said estimated cost of the Zayante project would be \$1,300,000, with a capital cost of \$54,000 a year or \$14 an acre-foot.

The four other possible sites, which are discussed in the report, are Waterman Switch, Bear creek, Jamison on Boulder Creek and Newell creek, Dolcini said.

Estimated costs of these projects are Waterman, \$1,200,000 or \$25 per acre-foot; Jamison, \$2,500,000 or \$33 per acre-foot; Newell, \$2,200,000 or \$33 per acre-foot; Bear, \$2,500,000 or \$21 per acre-foot.

"Choice of the dam sites is up to the people of the areas," Dolcini said. He added that any state or federal aid which might be re-

ceived should be welcomed by districts, agencies or other bodies which proceed with plans to construct the dams.

The Waterman site, he pointed out, is owned by the San Lorenzo Valley County water district.

All of the proposed dams will be earth-fill, which are flexible enough to withstand heavy earthquakes. They are much less expensive than concrete dams, he added.

All would be equipped with concrete-lined spillways to avert flood damage and all would have initial gravity flow. Some pumping would be necessary to serve higher areas. For instance, a conduit and pumping system would be necessary to get Zayante reservoir water to the Boulder Creek area.

Other points brought out by the engineer were:

The Sentinel-News story and the map showing the six reservoir and dam sites, published April 1 following a talk on the report at the Kiwanis club here by John Haley, supervising hydraulic engineer of the state division of water resources, gave an excellent picture of the projects recommended.

It is not the purpose of the report to consider sewer disposal problems in the units.

An orderly program for reservoir construction is set forth in the report to eliminate large duplication costs in the future.

The Doyle Gulch reservoir would be of great assistance to the city of Santa Cruz, particularly during dry winter cycles.

The larger Soquel project, originally on the recommended list, would cost \$9,800,000.

Water supply is not keeping up with the growth of the area. The water is here but it is not being properly conserved and regulated.

The projects recommended would provide water for 90,000 acres in the county whereas 36,000 acres are getting water now.

The report will cost much more than the original \$26,000 contributed by the two counties, the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville and the state, with the state providing the extra funds.

The problem in northern Santa Cruz county is surface water shortage; in the Pajaro valley the problem is the diminishing underground supply. Encroachment of salt water into Pajaro wells is growing more serious.

Announce Changes In Memorial Day

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