

Good evening.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight
My name is DJ Andriessen and I have lived in Clarksburg for over 20 years. I plan to live here for the rest of my long life.
I am a survivor of West Nile Virus. Although I still suffer from some of its lingering effects, I consider myself fortunate because I survived. West Nile Virus is a devastating disease for which there is neither vaccine nor cure. Since my diagnosis, there have been 9,237-recorded cases of humans contracting the disease in the U.S., with 344 fatalities. In spite of our efforts, the number of reported West Nile Virus cases in California has increased by 25% since 2006.

Creating a shallow water refuge in our area is really just building a West Nile Virus Incubator, and that would affect the entire Sacramento Valley, not just our area.

I do not believe this project exists to protect the smelt, unless these are our southern California Smelt friends, but even if it is, and we use what is currently being used to eradicate the mosquito population, we would also be killing the Chaoborus, or phantom, midge, whose larval stage is the main food source for our precious smelt. So we would be breeding the smelt just to watch them die of starvation.

The last time we met here, I asked that you take your plans back to the drawing board to find a more workable solution to the perceived problem. Tonight, I just want to say **shame on you**. Shame on those who are paying your wages-with my tax dollars.

In what democracy do ethical people think it is ok to take the homes and livelihoods of any number of people for an experiment-with fish?! I pray not in my America.

Our only consolation is that you were not around when the dinosaurs were dying out. God only knows how much land you would have taken to save them.

Good night.

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