

Chris Shutes
Water Rights Advocate and FERC Projects Director
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
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2006 – Present: Water Rights Advocate and FERC Projects Director for the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance. Steering Committee member, California Hydropower Reform Coalition. Steering Committee member (since 2009), National Hydropower Reform Coalition

FERC licensing experience

El Dorado Project 1999-2003 (individual signatory to El Dorado settlement)
Upper American River Project, 2003 to 2007 (signatory to UARP settlement on behalf of CSPA)
Oroville Facilities Project 2006-present (intervenor, advocate for improvements through 401 Certification)
DeSabra – Centerville Project 2006-present (intervenor; awaiting 401 and Biological Opinion)
Upper North Fork Feather Project (assumed lead role for CSPA; awaiting 401)
Poe Project 2008 (awaiting 401)
Yuba-Bear/Drum-Spaulding projects 2008-present (in relicensing)
McCloud-Pit Project 2009-present (intervenor; in relicensing)
Middle Fork American Project 2010-present (in relicensing)
Merced River Project 2009-present (in relicensing)
Merced Falls Project 2009-present (in relicensing)
Yuba River Development Project 2010 (pre-relicensing)

FERC License implementation

Rock Creek – Cresta Project 2006-present
El Dorado 2005-present

FERC Special project

Don Pedro informational proceeding 2009-2010 (special consultant to Friends of the River)

Skills and general experience:

Understanding of hydrology of numerous rivers and of hydrologic modeling output.
Review of tens of thousands of pages of technical documents relating to fisheries, aquatic ecology and biota, geomorphology, hydroelectric and water supply operations, reservoir and river management. Numerous policy initiatives including reform of licensing process. Hundreds of documents submitted in regulatory proceedings.

Water Rights Actions 2006 to Present

Protests of water rights applications and petitions filed on behalf of CSPA and accepted by the State Board:

12721 et al CVP petitions for extension of time 2009
29062 Delta Wetlands application and petition 2009
5629 DWR petitions for extension of time 2010
5644-5645 El Dorado applications and petitions 2009
31807 Forest Ranch application 2010
29657 San Joaquin County application 2008
12842 North San Joaquin petition 2009
12919A Sonoma County Russian River petition 2010
12919BC Mendocino application state filings 2008
31553-32554 Rogina Russian River application 2007
14313 Bear Gulch petition for extension of time 2009
476, 22061 Paradise Irrigation District Little Butte Creek petitions 2008
1270 et al Nevada Irrigation District petitions 2009 (joint protest)
17002 Zone 7 Alameda Creek watershed petitions 2010 (joint protest)
11587, 12179, 21471B Bureau of Reclamation Santa Margarita River petitions 2010 (joint protest)

Also: 4 comment letters in 2010 and 11 comment letters in 2009 regarding “temporary transfers”

Note: Protests (and comments on transfers) require substantial follow-up including letters, meetings, and comments on environmental documents, and may require participation in hearings. No effort has been made here to catalogue the level of such effort for each protest.

Follow-up on CSPA protests filed by other CSPA personnel:

30358A and 30358B Davis and Woodland applications Sacramento River 2008 to present
16209 Auburn Dam hearing and testimony 2008-2009
17447 Santa Ynez River application letter declining dismissal 2009
29835 Mokelumne River Water and Power Authority application comments on water availability analysis, letter declining dismissal 2009-2010

Comments and oral participation at SWRCB meetings and workshops

AB2121 North Coast instream flow 2007-2010
North Coast frost control 2008-2010