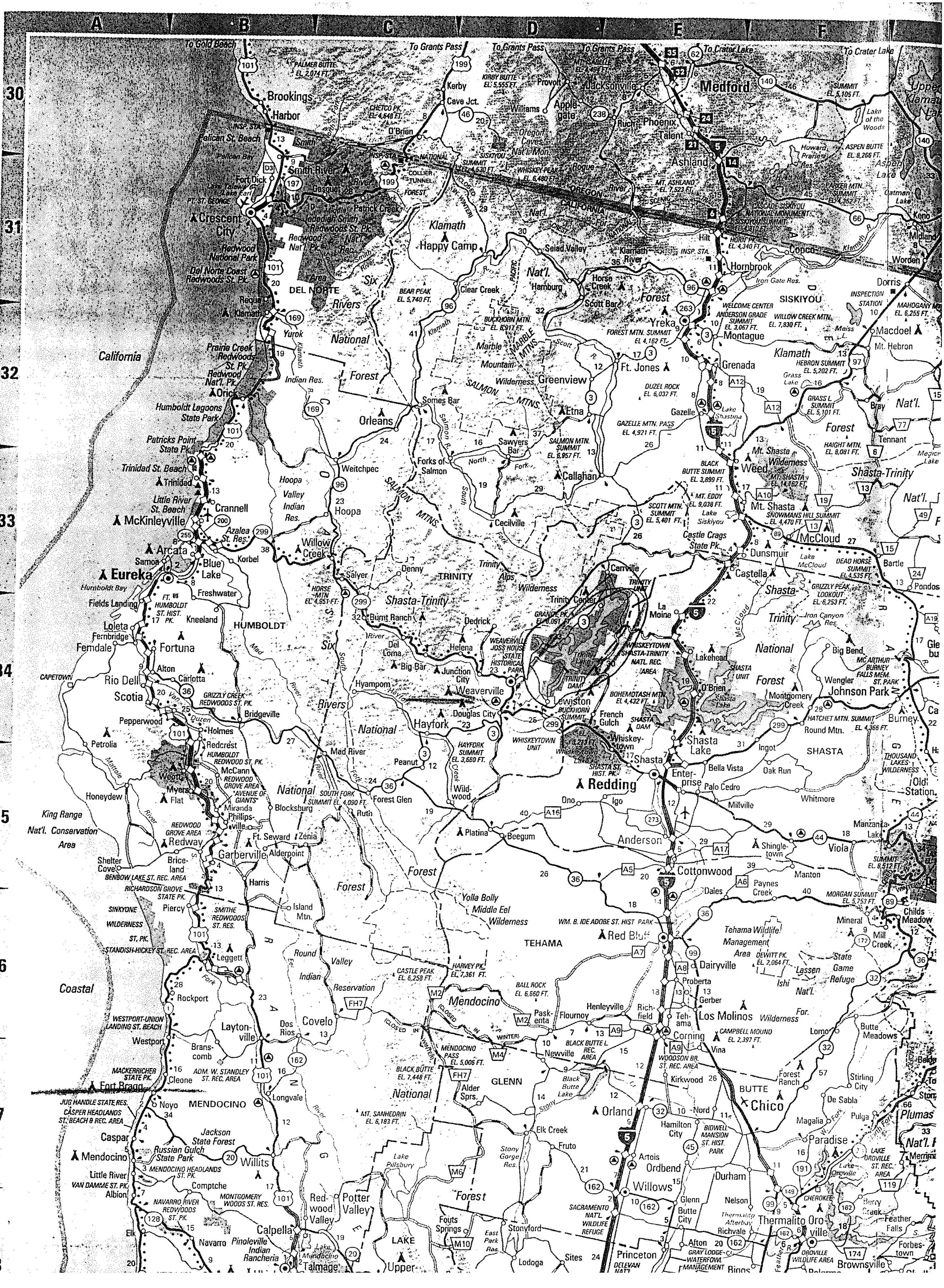
Trinity Lake

viticultural area petition

submitted by
Keith Groves of Alpen Cellars

Trinity Lake is located in north, central California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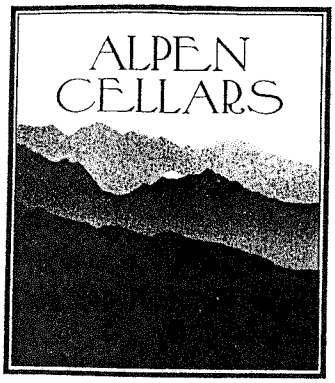
To Gold Beach
To Grants Pass
To Crater Lake
Brookings
Harbor
Kerby
Cave Jct.
O'Brien
Williams
Applegate
Ruch
Provolt
Jacksonville
Medford
Phoenix
Talent
Ashland
Oregon Caves Nat'l Mon.
OREGON
CALIFORNIA
Pelican St. Beach
Smith River
Fort Dick
Gasquet
Patrick Creek
Crescent City
Redwood National Park
Del Norte Coast Redwoods St. Pk.
Jedediah Smith Redwoods St. Pk.
DEL NORTE
Requa
Klamath
Yurok
California
Prairie Creek Redwoods St. Pk.
Orick
Humboldt Lagoons State Park
Patricks Point State Pk.
Trinidad St. Beach
Trinidad
Little River St. Beach
Crannell
McKinleyville
Azalea St. Res.
Arcata
Samoa
Eureka
Humboldt Bay
Blue Lake
Korbel
Fields Landing
Freshwater
Loleta
Fernbridge
Ferndale
Kneeland
HUMBOLDT
Fortuna
Alton
Carlotta
CAPETOWN
Rio Dell
Scotia
Grizzly Creek Redwoods St. Pk.
Bridgeville
Pepperwood
Petrolia
Holmes
Redcrest
Humboldt Redwood St. Pk.
Weott
McCann
Myers Flat
Honeydew
King Range Nat'l. Conservation Area
Miranda
Phillipsville
Redway
Garberville
Alderpoint
Zenia
Ft. Seward
Blocksburg
Shelter Cove
Briceland
Benbow Lake St. Rec. Area
Richardson Grove State Pk.
Harris
Piercy
Smithe Redwoods St. Res.
Sinkyone Wilderness St. Pk.
Standish-Hickey St. Rec. Area
Leggett
Coastal
Rockport
Westport-Union Landing St. Beach
Westport
Laytonville
Branscomb
MacKerricher State Pk.
Cleone
Adm. W. Standley St. Rec. Area
Fort Bragg
Jug Handle State Res.
Noyo
MENDOCINO
Casper Headlands St. Beach & Rec. Area
Caspar
Jackson State Forest
Mendocino
Russian Gulch State Park
Mendocino Headlands St. Pk.
Little River
Van Damme St. Pk.
Albion
Comptche
Willits
Navarro River Redwoods St. Pk.
Montgomery Woods St. Res.
Elk
Navarro
Calpella
Pinoleville Indian Rancheria
Redwood Valley
Potter Valley
Talmage
Upper
LAKE
Longvale
Dos Rios
Covelo
Round Valley Indian Reservation
Island Mtn.
Hoopa Valley Indian Res.
Hoopa
Weitchpec
Orleans
Somes Bar
Happy Camp
Klamath
Seiad Valley
Clear Creek
Hamburg
Horse Creek
Scott Bar
Yreka
Montague
Hornbrook
Hilt
Copco
Dorris
Macdoel
Mt. Hebron
SISKIYOU
Grenada
Ft. Jones
Greenview
Etna
Sawyers Bar
Forks of Salmon
Callahan
Cecilville
Marble Mountain Wilderness
Salmon Mtns
Six Rivers National Forest
Klamath National Forest
Willow Creek
Salyer
Denny
TRINITY
Burnt Ranch
Dedrick
Helena
Del Loma
Big Bar
Junction City
Weaverville
Hyampom
Hayfork
Douglas City
Trinity Alps Wilderness
Trinity Center
Carrville
Lewiston
Shasta-Trinity National Forest
Mad River
Peanut
Forest Glen
Ruth
Wildwood
Platina
Beegum
Yolla Bolly Middle Eel Wilderness
Mendocino National Forest
TEHAMA
GLENN
Alder Springs
Elk Creek
Stonyford
Fouts Springs
Lodoga
Sites
Weed
Mt. Shasta
McCloud
Dunsmuir
Castella
Castle Crags State Pk.
Gazelle
Lake Shastina
Lakehead
La Moine
O'Brien
Shasta Lake
French Gulch
Whiskeytown
Shasta
Redding
Enterprise
Palo Cedro
Bella Vista
Oak Run
Millville
Whitmore
Ingot
Round Mtn.
Burney
Johnson Park
Montgomery Creek
Big Bend
Wengler
SHASTA
Ono
Igo
Anderson
Cottonwood
Shingletown
Viola
Manzanita Lake
Manton
Paynes Creek
Dales
Red Bluff
Mineral
Mill Creek
Childs Meadow
Tehama Wildlife Management Area
Dairyville
Proberta
Gerber
Tehama
Los Molinos
Richfield
Henleyville
Paskenta
Flournoy
Corning
Vina
Newville
Black Butte Lake
Kirkwood
Orland
Hamilton City
Nord
BUTTE
Chico
Forest Ranch
Stirling City
De Sabla
Magalia
Paradise
Artois
Ordbend
Willows
Durham
Glenn
Butte City
Nelson
Thermalito
Oroville
Richvale
Afton
Princeton
Biggs
Feather Falls
Forbestown
Brownsville
Lassen Nat'l. Forest
Ishi Wilderness
Plumas
Tennant
Bartle
Pondosa
Sacramento Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
Gray Lodge Waterfowl Management Area
Oroville Wildlife Area



G. MARK GROVES, MANAGER
KEITH L. GROVES, WINE MAKER

12/21/2000

Regional Director AB 1/9/01
Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms
221 Main Street, 11th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

To whom it concerns,

The following is a petition for a proposed new American viticulture area named "Trinity Lake" in Trinity County, CA. This petition is being brought by Keith Groves, co-owner of Alpen Cellars winery in Trinity Center CA and President of the Trinity County Grape Growers Association. If there are any questions please contact me at [redacted] or at below address.

Sincerely

Keith Groves

Enclosed : Cover letter, Petition 3 pages, 10 Quadrangle 7.5 minute series maps

ROUTE 2 BOX 3966, • TRINITY CENTER, CA. 96091 • (530) 266-3363

This is a petition for a new American Viticultural Area named "Trinity Lake".

1. Evidence of area name:

This petition is for an area around Trinity Lake and the much smaller Lewiston Lake. Trinity Lake was built in the late 1950's and was filled by 1961. When it was dedicated it was know as Clair Engle Lake and remained named this until 1997. In 1997 U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer and U.S. Congressman Wally Herger with the strong support from the local citizens, Trinity County Board of Supervisors and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation introduced a bill to rename the reservoir*. In late 1997 the bill was passed and signed into law, renaming the reservoir " Trinity Lake"

2. Historical or current evidence that the proposed boundaries of the viticultural area are correct:

There is very little historic viticultural data since the reservoir covered the majority of farm land in the Trinity Valley, which for the previous one hundred years had been cattle pasture and hay fields. In 1980 a viticultural feasibility study was done for the East Fork Valley in the north end of the proposed Trinity Lake area, the following year, 1981 a small vineyard was planted there next to the lake. In 1984 the same vineyard bonded it self to become the first winery in the area, and has slowly grown, producing high quality cool climate grapes. By the late 1990's more vineyards started to be planted in other parts of the proposed area that is affected by the reservoir's influence.

3. Evidence relating to the geographical features (climate, soil, elevation, physical features) which distinguish the Viticulture features of the area from surrounding areas:

A. Climate

The "Trinity Lake" viticultural area's degree days are on the border of a region I to region II, depending on the year. The "area" has two distinct seasons a rainy and dry season, the rainy season occurs from November thru May and can be quite cold with an average low temperatures of 27 degrees Fahrenheit in December and January. But during the dry season it can be quite warm with average high temperatures of 93 degrees in July and August. The average rainfall is around 44 inches a year. Because of the mountainous climate the growing season is relatively short with 175 to 200 days. The key difference to the "Trinity Lake" area is the large body of water (approx. 2,500,000 acre feet, with a depth of 450 feet and approx. 28 miles long) which has a cooling affect during the day and a warming affect during the night. As in the Finger Lake's region in New York this area would not be able to grow grapes of equal quality without the "lake affect". Other potential grape growing areas in the County have the same type of mountainous climate but do not have the "lake affect" due to their distance from the lakes.

* Trinity Journal June 18,1997 page 3

B. Soil

The soils are extremely varied due to the ruggedness of geology in Trinity, the common thread in the farm soils in the proposed area are that they are well drained, alluvial fans in narrow valleys on stream terraces. This is in contrast with other potential grape areas in the county which have wider valley floors, deeper soils with higher clay content, here are the more important farm soils in the proposed area.*

(1.) Haysum

This is gravely loam which is well drained to excessively well drained, with 0 to 9 percent slopes. The vegetation is mainly White Oak and Ponderosa Pine. Average pH is 6.5.

(2.) Jafa

This is moderately deep soil of loam to gravely loam at it depths. Well drained with 0 to 5 percent slopes. The vegetation is Douglas Fir, White Oak and Ponderosa Pine. Average pH is 6.5

(3.) Haploxerolls

Gravelly coarse sandy loam to 60 inches depth, extremely well drained with 0 to 6 percent slope. The vegetation is Douglas Fir, Ponderosa Pine, Sugar Pine. Average pH is 6.1

C. Topography.

The "Trinity Lake" area is characterized by rugged steep timbered ridges dropping into Trinity and Lewiston lakes. The filling of the lakes in the early 1960's left only small narrow valleys uncovered. The narrow valleys are where the plantable ground is, this makes up only about1.5 % of the approximately 96,000 acres of the area. There now are four commercial vineyards in the proposed boundaries of the area, totaling approximately 30 acres of wine grapes currently being grown. In the narrow valleys the "lake affect" becomes more pronounced because the valleys are so small compared to the large bodies of water this has a moderating affect on the area's temperature. Due to the ruggedness of the area the elevation varies from approximately 1500 feet to 4000 feet above sea level.

4. Approved Maps:

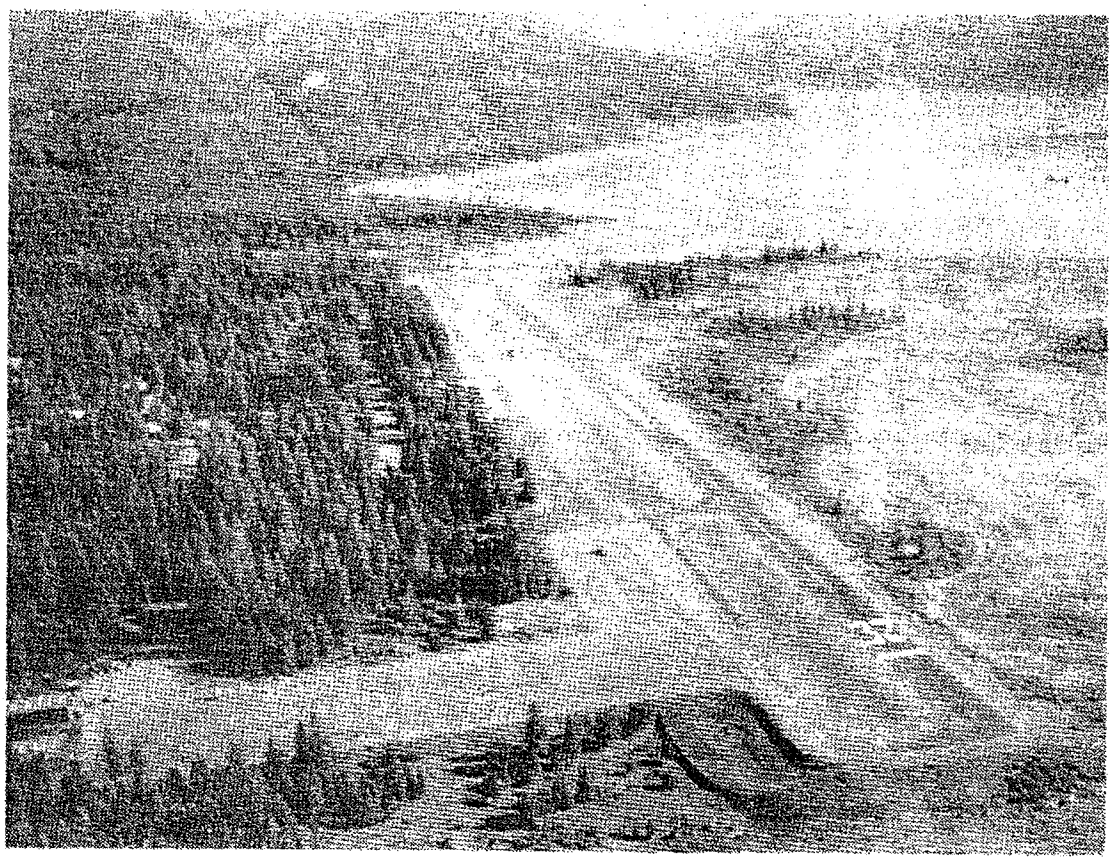
1. Carrville Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1986
2. Whiskey Bill Peak Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1986
3. Damnation Peak Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
4. Trinity Center Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
5. Papoose Creek Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
6. Trinity Dam Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
7. Lewiston Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
8. Weaverville Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
9. Rush Creek Lakes Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982
10. Covington Mill Quadrangle California 7.5 Minute Series, 1982

*Soil Survey of Trinity County by Natural Resources Conservation Services

5. Boundary:

The " Trinity Lake" area is located within Trinity County, California. within the following boundary description,

1. Point of beginning , T37N/R7W Northwest corner of Section 5 on Carrville Quad. map
2. Then due East to T37N/R7W Northeast corner Section 5 on Carrville Quad. map
3. Then due South to T37N/R7W Southwest corner section 21 on Carrville Quad map
4. Then due East to T37N/R7W Northeast corner section 28 on Carrville Quad map
5. Then due South to T37N/R7W Southwest corner section 34 on Carrville Quad map
6. Then due East to T37N/R7W Southeast corner section 36 on Whiskey Bill Quad map
7. Then due North to T37N/R6W Northwest corner section 30 on Whiskey Bill Quad map
8. Then due East toT36N/R6W Northeast corner section 30 on Whiskey Bill Quad map
9. Then due South toT36N/R6W Southeast corner section 7 on Damnation Peak Quad map
10. Then due West to T36N/R7W Southwest corner section 12 on Trinity Center Quad map
11. Then due South to T36N/R7W Southwest corner section 36 on Trinity Center Quad map
12 Then due West to T36N/R7W 900 meter contour line
13. Then follow 900 meter contour line through T35N/R7W , T34N/R7W and T34N/R8W (Trinity Center Quad, Papoose Creek Quad and Trinity Dam Quad Maps) till intersect South border of section 22, T34N/R8W on Trinity Dam Quad map
14. Then due West to T34N/R8W Southwest corner section 22 on Trinity Dam Quad map
15. Then due South to T33N/R8W Southeast corner section 21 on Lewiston Quad map
16. Then due West to T33N/R8W Northeast corner section 30 on Lewiston Quad map
17. Then due South to T33N/R8W Southeast corner section 30 on Lewiston Quad map
18. Then due West to T33N/R9W Southwest corner section 26 on Lewiston Quad map
19. Then due South to T32N/R9W Southeast corner section 3 on Lewiston Quad map
20. Then due West to T32N/R9W Southwest corner section 5 on Weaverville Quad map
21. Then due North to T33N/R9W Northwest corner section 29 on Weaverville Quad map
22. Then due East to T33N/R9W Northeast corner section 28 on Weaverville Quad map
23. Then due North to T33N/R9W Northwest corner section 22 on Weaverville Quad map
24. Then due East to T33N/R9W Southeast corner section 15 on Lewiston Quad map
25. Then due North to T33N/R9W Northwest corner section 14 on Lewiston Quad map
26. Then due East to T33N/R9W Northwest corner section 18 on Lewiston Quad map
27. Then due North to T34N/R9W Southeast corner section 1 on Trinity Dam Quad map
28. Then due West to 900 meter contour line
29. Then follow 900 meter contour line around lake through T35N/R9W, T35N/R8W and T36N/R8W(Trinity Dam Quad, Covington Mill Quad, Rush Creek Lake Quad and Trinity Center Quad Maps) to T36N/R8W section 35 North boundary on Trinity Center Quad map
30. Then due East to T36N/R8W Southeast corner section 25 on Trinity Center Quad map
31. Then due North to T37N/R7W Northwest corner section 6 on Carrville Quad map
32. Then due East to T37N/R7W Northwest corner section 5 on Carrville Quad map(Point of beginning)



by DAVID HADDON

New taxiway at Trinity Center

This photo shows the newly constructed taxiway (center left) at the Trinity Center Airport. To the right is the 3,200-foot runway that has been repaved and restriped. The taxiway eliminates the need for airplanes to taxi on the runway before takeoff or after landing. This view is looking north.

Boxer introduces bill to change lake name

Last week Sen. Barbara Boxer introduced a bill that changes the name of Clair Engle Lake to its commonly known name, Trinity Lake.

Congressman Wally Herger, R-Marysville, had earlier introduced identical legislation that has passed the House of Representatives and went on to the Senate.

"Thousands of visitors and tourists from all over California come to the lake to fish, boat, hike and camp," said Boxer, D-California. "Renaming the lake Trinity Lake would end the confusion and help boost the local economy."

Since the reservoir was created with the construction of the Trinity Dam, local citizens have referred to the lake as Trinity Lake. This usage has been widely adopted by almost all of the general public as well as federal, state and local officials.

Boxer's bill is supported by the Trinity County Board of Supervisors and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

"The congressman is hopeful that Senator Boxer will move this legislation through," said Steve Thompson, a spokesman for Herger.

He noted that with Boxer's action, there are now two identical bills in the Senate that would change the lake name, and either route is fine with Herger.

This is the second recent attempt at changing the lake's name. During the last legislative session Herger and Boxer also introduced bills to change the lake name, but neither was passed by the Senate.

Officers get rude reception at Douglas City home

A Douglas City man was ar- and upon moving a closed curtain residence. It was believed that

Tourist
Info
TRINITY LAKES
TRINITY CENTER 30
YREKA 101
Trinity Lakes
Yreka
TURN RIGHT
1/4 MILE
TRINITY LAKES
TRINITY CENTER 30
YREKA 100

February 26, 2001

Alpen Cellars
RT 2
Box 3966
Trinity Center, CA 96091

Alpen Cellars:
Subject: Weather affects from Trinity Lake

I am responding to your questions concerning the effects Trinity Lake has on your vineyard. Trinity Lake has over 120 miles of shoreline and is of considerable depth. The water temperature ranges from the upper seventies in late autumn, to the upper fifties in the spring. By reason of the location of your vineyard near the northern end of Trinity Lake and the lake's year around open water, your vineyard will be affected in a number of ways.

The extreme temperatures that were experienced before the lake was filled are modified. The winter lows are warmer by as much as 5 to 7 degrees. In the summer you have fewer days that reach into the nineties.

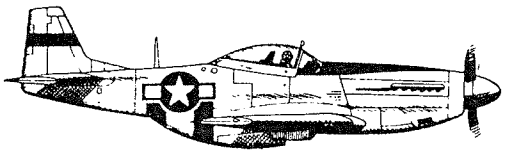
With the additional moisture provided by Trinity Lake you have many more days with fog. The most apparent climatic change is the increase in early morning low overcast or fog. The fog spreads into the entire river valley late in the night and lingers longer after sunrise. This significantly affects nighttime and early morning low temperatures. In late summer thru early spring, fog decreases daytime highs and increases morning lows.

Climatologically the effects of Trinity Lake on its immediate surroundings are understandable. The weather effects are felt throughout the valley and this includes Alpen Cellars. If I can be further assistance please let me know.

Respectfully,

John F. Burkes

John F. Burkes
Meteorologist. Ret. U.S. Civil Service
P.O. Box 269, Trinity Center, CA 96091



LYNTON E. SCOTT

POST OFFICE BOX 266
TRINITY CENTER, CALIFORNIA 96091

20 MARCH 2001

SUBJECT: HAS THE ADVENT OF TRINITY LAKE ALTERED THE LOCAL WEATHER PATTERNS.

MARK GROVES
ALPEN CELLARS
TRINITY CENTER, CA 96091

DEAR MARK,

THE FOLLOWING REMARKS ARE RELATED TO MY PERSONAL OBSERVATION OF THE WEATHER AROUND THE TRINITY CENTER AREA AND CHANGES IN THE WEATHER THAT I FEEL WERE CAUSED BY THE ARRIVAL OF TRINITY LAKE.

I AM 70 YEARS OLD AND TRINITY LAKE HAS BEEN HERE FOR ROUGHLY HALF OF THAT TIME SO I HAVE AN INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WEATHER FOR 35 YEARS BEFORE THE LAKE AND 35 YEARS SINCE THE LAKE.

MY FAMILY HAS RANCHED AND FARMED IN THIS VALLEY SINCE 1909. WE MADE OUR LIVING THROUGH AGRICULTURE UNTIL THE LAKE INUNDATED A LARGE PORTION OF OUR PROPERTY IN THE EARLY 1960'S. I AM STILL ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN FARMING BUT NOT AS A PRIMARY LIVELIHOOD. WEATHER IS A KEY FACTOR IN ALL PHASES OF AGRICULTURE, IF YOU HAVE A LATE FREEZE IN THE SPRING YOU LOOSE THE BLOSSOMS ON THE TREES IN THE ORCHARD. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A GOOD SNOW PACK IRRIGATION OF YOUR CROPS WILL SUFFER IN THE COMING SUMMER. IF YOU HAVE COLDER AND LONGER WINTERS YOU NEED MORE FEED FOR THE LIVESTOCK.

SNOW....BEFORE THE LAKE WE WOULD RECEIVE FROM 3 TO 5 FEET OF SNOW EVERY WINTER AND ON OCCASION OVER 6 FEET. THE GROUND OFTEN WOULD BE COVERED WITH SNOW FROM EARLY NOVEMBER UNTIL MARCH. I CAN NOT RECALL A WINTER BEFORE THE LAKE WHEN WE ONLY RECEIVED A FEW INCHES OF SNOW. SINCE THE COMING OF TRINITY LAKE WE HAVE HAD MANY WINTERS WITH ONLY A FEW INCHES OF SNOW AND RARELY A WINTER WITH OVER 2 FEET OF SNOW.

COLD....IN THE YEARS BEFORE TRINITY LAKE THE WINTERS WERE MUCH COLDER THAN NOW. OFTEN THE TEMPERATURE WOULD DROP BELOW ZERO DEGREES FAHRENHEIT AND A COUPLE TIMES IT DROPPED TO 10 DEGREES BELOW ZERO. EVERY WINTER THE LOCAL PONDS WOULD HAVE FROM 3 TO 5 INCHES OF ICE AND WE WOULD SLED ON THE ICE. NOW WE SELDOM HAVE TEMPERATURES COLDER THAN 15 DEGREES ABOVE ZERO.

FOG....BEFORE THE LAKE WE NEVER HAD AS MUCH FOG AS WE DO NOW AND I THINK THAT MAY BE WHY IT DOESN'T GET AS COLD NOW.

CONCLUSION....I FEEL THAT TRINITY LAKE HAS CAUSED OUR WEATHER TO BE MORE MODERATE THAN DURING THE YEARS BEFORE THE LAKE.

SINCERELY,

LYNTON E. SCOTT

ILLEGITMUS NON TATUM CARBORUNDEM

WORKING COPY

August 17, 2001

Nancy Sutton
B.A.T.F.
221 Main Street, 11th Floor
San Francisco, Ca. 94105

Re: Trinity Lake Viticulture Area Petition

Dear Ms. Sutton:

For the last 27 years I have owned and lived on a ranch in the Douglas City area of Trinity County, California. My ranch is situated on Indian Creek, a few hundred yards from the Trinity River. I raise cattle, and started farming wine grapes in the spring of 1999. Keith Groves has requested that I relate to you my observations concerning the climatological effect on my property of the Trinity Lake/Trinity Dam/Trinity River complex.

Like most man-make lakes in mountainous areas, Trinity Lake is very deep at the dam, where water is released to form the Trinity River. This water is extremely cold all year around. Based on my experience in this area, I believe that these abnormally cold river water temperatures give us more fog in the Trinity River basin, particularly in the spring and early summer. The almost constant river water temperatures also seem to moderate the air temperatures, giving us warmer air temperatures in the winter and spring, while giving us cooler temperatures in the summer and fall.

I hope this information is helpful. My opinions are based on my years of living and working in this area, not any scientific data. If I can be of any assistance to you with respect to your analysis of Keith's petition, please let me know.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

John Letton
Indian Creek Ranch
[redacted]
Weaverville, Ca. 96093

Phone: [redacted]