

## Quantified Future Water Needs

It is clear to the District's Board of Directors that one project, or a combination of different projects, could provide adequate water for community and environmental needs. The Board's current water augmentation goal is to provide the amount of water needed to meet the needs of buildable, legal lots-of-record existing on January 1, 1997 and water needed for all remodels that will occur through January 1, 2007.

A study was undertaken in 1997 to quantify the District's future water needs as defined by the water augmentation goal. The final study was released in March 1998. Results of the final study will help the District determine which water supply projects will meet overall community water needs. However, it is not intended to be used as a basis to establish water allocations for member jurisdictions. At the urging of the jurisdictions and community members, the Board agreed in November 1998 to work with the jurisdictions on development of a more comprehensive study that further quantifies water needs.

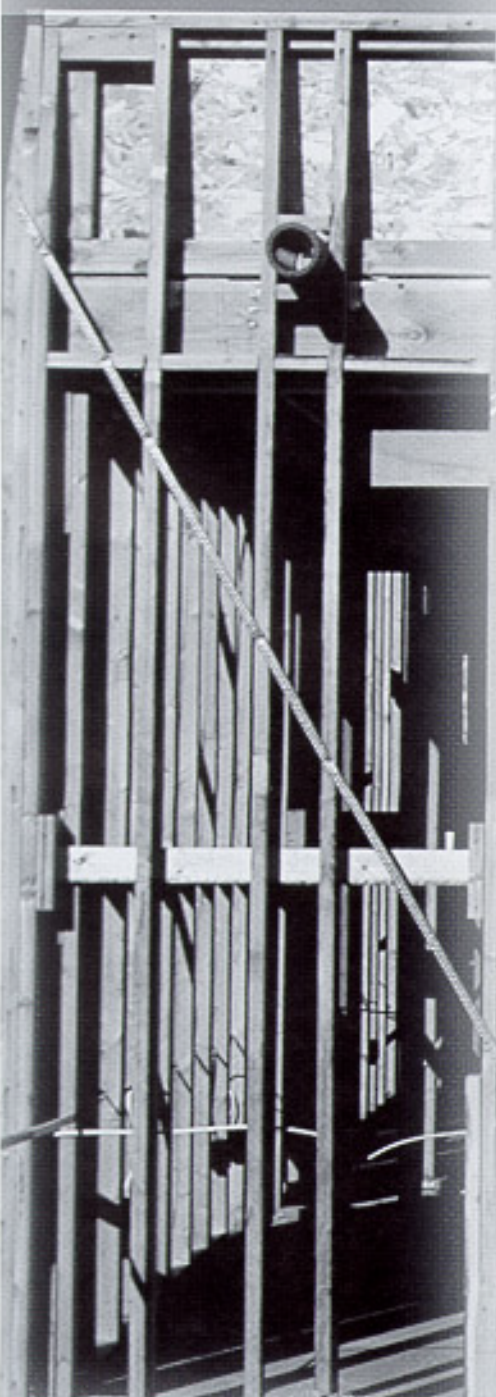
## Completed Draft Supplemental EIR on Carmel River Dam Project

In November 1998, the District completed the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) on Cal-Am's proposed Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project, and the document was circulated for a 60-day public review period. In December, staff conducted six public workshops on the DSEIR at various locations throughout the District. Responses to comments received on the draft document will be incorporated into the Final SEIR which is scheduled for completion in Summer 2000.

Environmental, water supply, cultural and financial aspects of the project were thoroughly studied by District staff with the assistance of specialized consultants throughout 1998. The DSEIR also assesses how the project affects the California red-legged frog and the Carmel River steelhead as required under the Endangered Species Act. In addition, alternatives to a dam such as seawater desalination alone or combined with other projects were analyzed in the DSEIR. Over 70 water supply alternatives were reviewed and summarized.

The proposed Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project would provide the 10,730 acre-feet of water identified in State Order 95-10, alleviating the threat of 75 percent reductions in water production from the Carmel River. The project is designed to meet environmental requirements for steelhead fish and the red-legged frog, and provides increased drought protection. As proposed by Cal-Am, no water would be available from this project for new construction or remodel projects.

In 1997, Cal-Am applied to the District for a permit to expand its water distribution system by constructing the Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project. The permit application also requests that the District issue a license or grant other permission for Cal-Am to use Federal and State permits the District holds for a similar dam project that was brought before the voters in 1995, but was not approved. The District Board will act on this request after the Final SEIR is certified.



The District's goal is to provide water for buildable, legal lots-of-record existing on January 1, 1997 and water for remodels that will occur through January 1, 2007. This could be achieved through construction of one or more local water supply projects. The District completed the Draft Supplemental EIR on the Carmel River Dam Project proposed by Cal-Am. Over 70 alternatives were studied, including seawater desalination.