## Where Did the Dam Water Go?



### THE TRUTH UNFOLDS Early action and outflow modifications have worked before and can work again.

With the Flathead snowpack trending below average, time is of the essence for the operators of the SKQ Dam, Energy Keepers, Inc. (EKI) to SEEK FEDERAL APPROVAL NOW to keep Flathead Lake within one foot of full pool this summer.

FACT: The SKQ Dam (formerly Kerr Dam) has operated for over eight decades through numerous droughts and has held the Lake within one foot below full pool.

**FACT:** Former operators of the SKQ Dam requested and received permission from Federal agencies to modify outflows from Flathead Lake to keep lake levels within one foot of full pool throughout the summer recreation season. Matching inflows and outflows is *a natural and logical solution*.

**FACT:** A Drought Management Plan (DMP) and its Final Environmental Study (EIS) were developed and finalized in 2010 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs as the lead agency. The EIS extensively analyzed the impacts of lowering outflows during a drought and concluded that it was not harmful to fish or the environment.

THE REST OF THE STORY ... FACT: In 2023, EKI chose not to request a modification to the minimum outflows to match inflows. Lake levels dropped to disastrous levels, leading to *extreme losses for ranchers, irrigators, businesses and the economy* throughout Northwest Montana.

#### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

# Send letters now to your elected officials before it's too late.

Visit FillTheLake.com for more information and connections to your political representatives.



#### Presented by the National Organization to Save Flathead Lake (NOSFL) FillTheLake.com

NOSFL is a local and diverse group representing you and your neighbors in navigating the maze of Federal agencies that have control over the management of Flathead Lake.

Our mission is to ensure we never experience a summer like 2023 and to work with all stakeholders to keep Flathead Lake at full pool from June 15 to September 15 every summer, and during a drought, within one foot of full pool.

Through these efforts, we can collectively support a healthy environment for power generation, the environment, agriculture, recreation, the local economy, and tourism.

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