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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

Gold Creek Pond has already been restored!

Although your letters to the general public have been well written and sound plausible your arguments are specious. Your data is lacking and where available indicates the opposite of what you state.

The data is clear:

- Gold creek dewatered many years before Gold Creek Pond was restored.
- Filling in the pond does not restore or fill the creek. The engineers you hired have stated this!
- Filling the pond will not help the fish. There is actually interest in using the pond as a hatchery to help restore fish population for other viable creeks and rivers.
- Climate change has caused loss of half of the Gold Creek snowpack over the last 5 decades. Studies have shown that these types of creeks are not viable as they so dependent on snowpack.
- Filling the pond would destroy habitat for over 200 species of trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, mammals (red fox, black bear, coyote, beaver, etc), birds as well as all the small amphibians and reptiles.
- 50,000-100,000 Dump trucks would haul in material and cost taxpayers \$14,000,000. This is a colossal waste of money and time to accomplish nothing.
- Gold Creek valley already has a large natural wetland and does not need more.
- This project destroys ADA access to an Alpine lake like setting for all of those who cannot hike further up Gold Creek Trail.

Stop this project! It's "fake" mitigation for the damage you are doing at Lake Kachess. Don't drain lakes (harm fish) and then fill ponds to pretend that you are helping the environment or the fish.