



May 17, 2011

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk of the Board, State Water Quality Control Board
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Jeanine and Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Resolution No# R5-2010-0043: Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins for the Control of Methylmercury and total Mercury in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary.

Middletown Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians is located in the Upper Putah Creek Watershed which feeds Lake Berryessa. Elevated levels of mercury have been documented in the lake and several tributaries feeding the lake, including Putah Creek.

The Tribe is currently undertaking a watershed assessment of surface waters in the Upper Putah Creek Watershed utilizing EPA funding under the Clean Water Act (CWA). Very little is known about the location or extent of mercury loads in our area. It is our hope that this study will contribute significant understanding of the Upper Putah Creeks role in the transport and deposition of mercury from the watershed.

Therefore, Middletown Rancheria supports the amendments to the above referenced plan and hope that our contribution of data to support the plan helps to gain some understanding of the location and extent of Putah Creek's mercury load.

Once again we would like to thank you and look forward to continuing our support of the State Water Quality Control Boards Water Quality Control Plan.

Please contact Chris Simon our Environmental Director at 707-987-3670 x117 if further information is needed

Sincerely,

Carl Rivera
Tribal Council Chairman