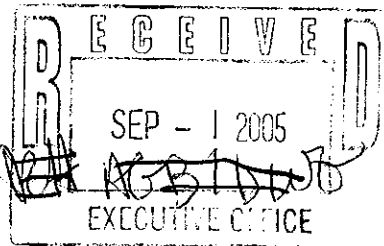


Aug 26, 2005

Mr. Arthur Baggett
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Debbie
Irvin*



Dear Mr. Baggett,

As a California resident, I am concerned with the protection of our world-renowned coastline. I am specifically interested in ensuring the maximum protection for California's "Areas of Special Biological Significance" (ASBSs).

These 34 areas along the coast, were given special protection status decades ago to safeguard the unique and sensitive biological species and communities found in these areas.

Over twenty years ago, the State Water Board adopted a pollution discharge prohibition to protect these resources, which by definition thrive only in natural water quality. Unfortunately, the clear prohibition on pollution into these biologically important areas has been largely ignored over the years, and there are now more than 1,650 illegal discharges into ASBSs statewide. As a result, some of the areas have become so polluted that they cannot even be safely used for wading, let alone as habitats for sensitive species.

I am in full support of strong actions to protect these areas from pollution, including robust measures to protect and restore ASBSs

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mr. Steve Baker
1231 E Colton Ave
Redlands, CA 92374-3755