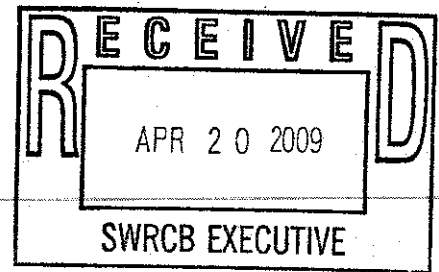


commentletters - Russian River low flow hurts the river

From: Christopher Evans <chris-evans@comcast.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Monday, April 20, 2009 10:17 PM
Subject: Russian River low flow hurts the river



Dear Sirs,

I have lived on the Russian River near Healdsburg for nineteen years, and have directly seen the negative impact of low river flow on water quality. I support the recommendations put forth by the Riverkeeper as follows:

- Increase frequency of chemical water quality monitoring to every two weeks with results posted promptly on a public website to proactively prevent water quality problems such as algae blooms from increased nutrient concentrations
- Include new provisions in the order to require flow changes in response to violations in water quality standards or as needed to protect juvenile ESA listed fish over the summer, the water agency released water to protect grapes from frost on April 14 to 16th so we expect increases to protect water quality as well
- Installation of additional gauges as needed to ensure instantaneous flow compliance levels are maintained, in 2004 and 2007 compliance levels were violated under previous orders
- A minimum of 25% mandatory conservation for SCWA customers and all users downstream of Dry Creek to help maintain flows and conserve water in case of multi-year drought.
- Mandatory conservation by all permitted water diversions upstream of Dry Creek including agricultural and rural residential diversions and streamside wells pumping underflow
- Additional prohibitions in the Order on diversions that are not permitted in critically dry conditions or if needed a separate order restraining those unpermitted diversions to protect water storage in Lake Mendocino and maintain higher flows
- Keep order prohibition on commercial turf irrigation in SCWA service area and expand to include all commercial turf using water from the Russian River

I believe these are reasonable adjustments.

Yours truly,

Christopher Evans

1875 Rio Lindo Avenue
Healdsburg, CA 95448