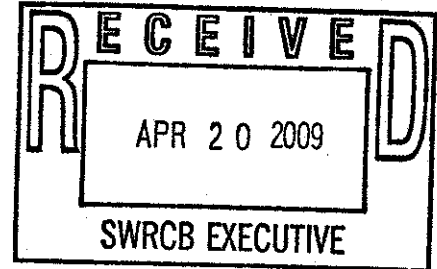


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April 20, 2009

Jeannie Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Randy Poole
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RE: Order WR 2009-0027-DWR Comments for May 6th Workshop

Dear Chairman Hoppin and Members of the Board,

I am concerned about the negative impacts from Order 2009-0027- DWR on the lower Russian River.

There is no doubt that lower flow will degrade water quality in the lower river, downstream of the Hacienda Bridge. I have seen it happen the past few summers. My concern is for the health of drinking water, recreation, fish and the tourist economy in the lower river.

I am appalled at the illegal diversions and waste of water by the Sonoma County Water Agency's users. It is not right for water to be taken illegally with little enforcement effort and for SCWA recipients to waste water for their landscapes while the lower river suffers real hardships. I urge you to stop the illegal diversions, put teeth into urban conservation measures for SWCA water users, require quantity and quality monitoring in Guerneville, Monte Rio, Duncans Mills, Bridge Haven and Jenner so that there is more knowledge at the state level about the impacts of lowering the flow in that section of the river. Perhaps you could consider requiring at least 185 cfs at Guerneville.

I urge you to require:

1. results of monitoring be promptly made available to the public
2. flow changes if water degrades below acceptable levels
3. mandatory conservation by all diverters upstream of Dry Creek
4. no commercial turf irrigation

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Yours truly,
Victoria Wikle

