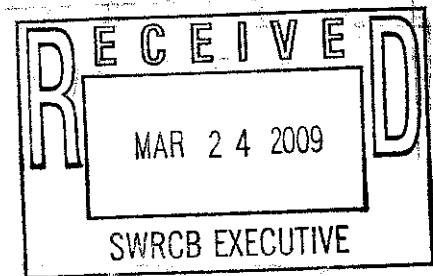


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Chairman Charles Hoppin
State Water Resources Control Board
PO Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



March 18, 2009

Regarding: Russian River Frost Protection Prohibition

Dear Chairman Hoppin and Board Members,

I have been in the farming business since the early 1970's and currently own ranches in three different locations in Mendocino County all of which directly or indirectly are affected by the inability to frost protect. Not only would this have an adverse effect on our economic welfare but also would affect a number of employees and thusly have an overall economic negative effect on our community.

It is my understanding that the SWRCB has the capability to deal with emergencies like the one we are facing now and I implore you to exercise that given right to make whatever provision necessary to adjust the stream flows to enable frost protection to take place.

I feel that I am a good steward of the land, sensitive to environmental issues, and believe this has been well demonstrated through voluntary conservation measures.

I am pleading that you not subject us to unnecessary hardships in these already trying times.

Sincerely, 

Jack L. Cox
Cox Vineyards