



April 30, 2010

Via First-Class Mail & Email
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Charles R. Hoppin, Chair
And Members of the Board
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: *Proposed Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Streams*

Dear Chairman Hoppin and Members of the Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recent changes to the proposed Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Streams ("Policy"). I would like to voice my support of the comment letter submitted by the California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF) concerning the Policy. The CFBF letter accurately expresses my concerns with the proposed Policy, and addresses needed changes to make it reasonably implementable and usable for water diverters.

The decision before all of us right now is whether to view the Policy as an opportunity to evoke beneficial change in attitudes, habits, and management of resources in order to improve conditions in our streams for salmonids, or to view the Policy as a regulatory hammer to enforce a set of management rules dictated to the users. Clearly, the former is what should be the desired outcome. If a policy is enacted that balances uses, is cognizant of costs and difficulties of implementation, and recognizes that flexibility and constant evaluation of the management guidelines are important factors, then an excellent start will have been made to recover our salmonid populations that includes all affected and interested parties in a beneficial way.

Most Sincerely Yours,

David Koball
Vineyard Director – Fetzer Vineyards
Mendocino County Farm Bureau 2nd Vice President
Owner/Operator – K2 Farming Company

cc: Frances Spivy-Weber, Vice Chair
Dorothy R. Rice, Executive Director
Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.
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Walter G. Pettit
Charles Hoppin
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