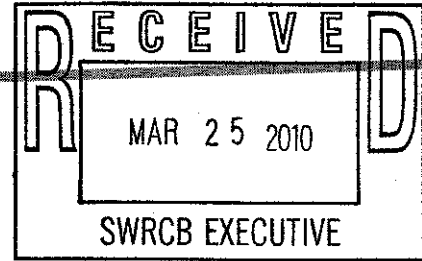


**commentletters - COMMENT LETTER - AB2121 POLICY**



**From:** "David Rice" <dwrice@att.net>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** 3/25/2010 2:12 PM  
**Subject:** COMMENT LETTER - AB2121 POLICY  
**CC:** <ecarrillo@sonoma-county.org>, <supchurc@sonoma-county.org>  
**Attachments:** Sea\_Ranch\_Water\_Co\_Comment\_Letter.pdf

We are writing to the State Water Resources Control Board in response to the proposed Draft Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams. We are property owners and residents at The Sea Ranch, located in northern Sonoma County, in the area near the Gualala River.

We request that these comments be made part of the administrative record for the Proposed Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams.

We support the position taken in a separate comment letter sent to the Board by The Sea Ranch Water Company, dated March 23, 2010, a copy of which is attached.

We also note:

- If our Water Company is subject to the proposed policy, there will likely be significant risks to the public safety, from inadequate water supply for firefighting. We request that the Board consult with CalFire (who provide fire coverage for our area) before implementing any policy that could reduce water supply.
- Our water usage per household is already significantly below the state average. There is minimal landscaping in our community, so rationing would have a much more significant effect on day-to-day household usage.
- Studies have shown that our existing water supply has little or no impact on flows in the Gualala River. There is no demonstrated need for further limitations.
- To the best of our knowledge, there was no notice in the newspaper of public record in our area (Independent Coast Observer) of the public workshops held in Santa Rosa and Ukiah in August 2008. Nor was there any notification from the Board to residents in areas affected by the Policy.
- Given the significant impact of the changes in the final Policy draft, a short comment period (from mid-February to March 26) is insufficient, and should be extended.
- In the meantime, the requirement for property owners to disclose the potential impact of the Policy to prospective buyers will have a chilling effect on the local economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David and Barbara Rice  
PO Box 409  
Gualala, CA 95445

[NOTE: Sender's email address is confidential, and should be excluded from public record.]