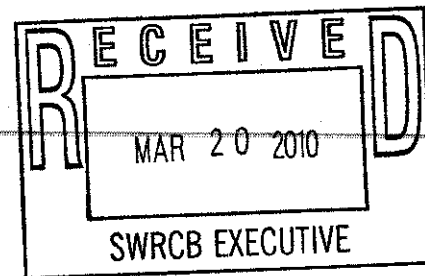


commentletters - COMMENT LETTER AB2121 POLICY

From: Eve Bennett-Wood <evebennettwood@ymail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 3/20/2010 3:28 PM
Subject: COMMENT LETTER AB2121 POLICY
CC: <ecarrillo@sonoma-county.org>



Attn: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Please do not enact the proposed changes in policy regarding the Gualala River and usage by the community of Sea Ranch, CA, where I live.

The SWRCB staff-recommended proposed policy, applicable regionally, could have a drastic, negative impact on The Sea Ranch. It could leave The Sea Ranch without water supply for days or even months each year. The proposed policy should be revised to require that the economic impacts on current water users be taken into account. The policy should be evaluated by including burden as well as benefit. Water needed for The Sea Ranch should not be re-dedicated to instream flow, especially when it is not even needed for that purpose.

The proposed policy assumes one size fits all. It was not validated for the Gualala River, but instead for inland conditions far different than ours. The policy has no basis in science applicable specifically to the Gualala River watershed or to our pumping from the aquifer within this watershed.

Our Association and Water Company believe the proposed policy should be revised to require that the economic and other impacts to current water users be taken into account. The policy should be evaluated by including burden as well as benefit. Further, the policy should employ science that addresses conditions like those found on the South Fork Gualala River.

Thank you,

Eve Bennett-Wood
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