

From: "Janice Bonora" <jib@mcn.org>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
CC: <ecarrillo@sonoma-county.org>
Date: 3/26/2010 11:02 AM
Subject: COMMENT LETTER - AB2121 POLICY

March 26, 2010

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

Email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: COMMENT LETTER - AB2121 POLICY
February 2010 Draft North Coast Instream Flow Policy
Request for Extension of Time

Dear State Water Resources Control Board:

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

I am a resident of Annapolis, California which lies within the Gualala River watershed. I have serious concerns about the health of this watershed and support efforts to protect the watershed's natural processes and to aid in it's recovery. In particular, the watershed is continuing to be threatened by logging activities and the introduction of large scale forest conversion to commercial vineyard operations in the headwaters of the river. I approve of the basic spirit of AB2121 in maintaining streamflows and countering illegal diversions, however, I do have serious concerns about the proposed Policy details which would impact water supplies for the existing local communities of The Sea Ranch and Gualala.

While the SWRCB made a concerted effort to hold public workshops on previous versions of the proposed Policy beginning with the initial draft released on December 28, 2007, I do not feel there has been adequate opportunities for public participation on this latest draft. Given the remoteness of our communities, notices should have been placed in our local papers and workshops held in the local coastal area. The residents of the communities whose water supply may be affected by this Policy deserve a chance to express their opinions and participate in the public process.

I respectfully request that you seriously consider all the issues raised in the March 23, 2010 letter from The Sea Ranch Water Company to the SWRCB. I endorse their requests as stated in that letter:

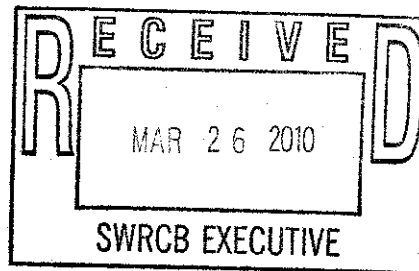
- That the March 26th comment period deadline be extended by at least 90 days,
- That the April 27th date be used for a workshop on the Policy, and
- For the opportunity to work collaboratively with you to devise a workable solution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janice Bonora
P.O. Box 61
Annapolis, CA 95412

cc: Efren Carrillo, Sonoma County Supervisor
Wesley Chesbro, California State Assemblymember



Pat Wiggins, State Senator
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger