



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Katherine Hart, Chair



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REQUEST TO ELIMINATE *E. COLI* MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENT FOR THE PIT RIVER SUBWATERSHED

Thank you for your letter submitted on 13 May 2010 requesting to eliminate *E. coli* management plan requirement for the Pit River Subwatershed. I approve the Coalition's request to eliminate the *E. coli* management plan requirement for the Pit River Subwatershed effective immediately, based on the discussion provided below.

The management plan requirement was originally triggered in 2005 by two *E. coli* exceedances detected in samples taken from the Pit River at Canby Bridge. A third exceedance was detected in water from this site in 2006. The decision to eliminate the above management plan requirement is based on the following:

- 1) No exceedances have been observed in the twelve samples taken at the Canby Bridge site since the summer of 2006;
- 2) No exceedances have been observed in the 28 samples taken at the lower Pit River site at Pittville; and
- 3) The Alturas Wastewater Treatment facility was upgraded in 2008 to address exceedances of effluent limits for parameters including coliform bacteria. The Alturas treatment facility is upstream from the Pit River site at Canby and may have contributed to elevated concentrations of *E. coli* detected at this site.

Regional Water Board staff have reviewed the above information and agree to eliminate the *E. coli* management plan requirement from the conditions of the SVWQC Water Quality Management Plan based on four years of sampling data without an exceedance and the likelihood that Alturas Wastewater Treatment Plant was a source of *E. coli* prior to 2008. The Pit River subwatershed will continue to be monitored for *E. coli* at the Pit River at Pittville Road site as a part of the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this approval, please contact Ben Letton at (530) 224-4129, or by email at bleton@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by

Pamela Creedon
Executive Officer

Cc: Robert Holscher Helen Albaugh Henry Giacomini Claus Suverkropp

California Environmental Protection Agency

Ben Letton