

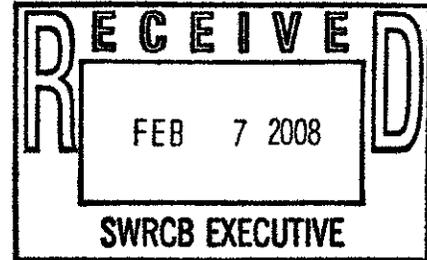


Putah Creek Council

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February 4, 2008

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



Subject: Comments on the proposed revisions to the Water Quality Enforcement Policy

Dear Ms. Townsend,

I am writing on behalf of the Putah Creek Council (PCC) concerning changes to the proposed redraft of the Policy provisions governing the use of Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs). We are primarily concerned with the elimination of SEPs for education and outreach programs.

The PCC is currently working with the City of Winters and other local groups on a SEP to produce an educational video on protecting the water quality of Putah Creek including a microscopic comparison of water samples from sewage-tainted and fresh waters. The video will compare water quality in relatively warm, slow moving areas, including the sewage tainted sites and faster reaches with better oxygenation and lower water temperature. The video will help to educate residents of Winters about the effects of water quality on stream habitat. The proposed SEP would have lasting benefit to the impacted community and bring the best possible outcome to an unfortunate series of events.

SEPs for education and outreach programs are important tools to achieve the State's water quality goals and to make residents aware of these goals. Without involving the local community, the community and its citizens learn nothing about water quality and the result of their actions on water quality and our local creeks and rivers. Through education and outreach and partnerships with local cities, non-profits, and water quality enforcement agencies, SEPs make citizens aware of issues in their local area and informed citizens are more likely to take a stake in preventing future violations.

The Putah Creek Council is dedicated to protecting and enhancing Putah Creek through education, advocacy and community-based stewardship. The Putah Creek Council



biomonitoring group has been actively involved in surveying the benthic macroinvertebrates in Putah Creek throughout the City of Winters and downstream. We strongly oppose removing SEPs for environmental education and outreach from the Water Quality Enforcement Policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dawn Calciano".

Dawn Calciano
Executive Director
(530) 795-3006