

**JAMES LLOYD-BUTLER FAMILY PARTNERSHIP**  
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3/23/07



State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Ms Song Her, Clerk of the Board

RE: Comments Concerning Upper Santa Clara River  
Chloride TMDL

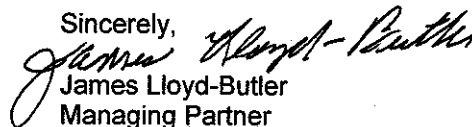
I am writing in support of the Los Angeles Regional Board's revised TMDL Plan and for the State Water Resource Board's staff recommendations to the State Board to adopt the proposed amendment. I have been a member of the Technical Working Group concerning the Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL, and I have been a grower, using water that is dependent on the Santa Clara River for many years. Our family has been directly involved in farming since 1908 and indirectly since the 1860's. We now grow lemons and avocados on approximately 260 acres, and we lease out approximately 350 acres devoted to vegetables, strawberry production and a nursery that grows ornamentals.

We growers spend much time and money trying to determine the best rootstocks and scions and determining, through laboratory analyses and recommendations, how best to fertilize and irrigate our crops, so we may not have the time or the technical education to be involved in the technical studies, policy-making and politics that occur, but I have tried to be somewhat involved and to get a better understanding of the Chloride problem by my attendance at many of the Technical Working Group meetings.

Please be sure that our family and other farmers dependent of the Santa Clara River water are very concerned in your decisions that affect the quality of water in the river. As the river water deteriorates, we farmers will become the victims of a problem we did not create. Our grower that produces strawberries has already declined to use river water high in salts.

For the foregoing reasons, I support the staff recommendations to: (1) approve the Basin Plan amendment unanimously adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Board on August 3, 2006, Resolution No. R4-2006-016; and (2) authorize the Executive Director to submit the amendment to the Office of Administrative Law and to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. I can be reached at (805) 647-7649 or [jameslloydbutler@yahoo.com](mailto:jameslloydbutler@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
James Lloyd-Butler  
Managing Partner