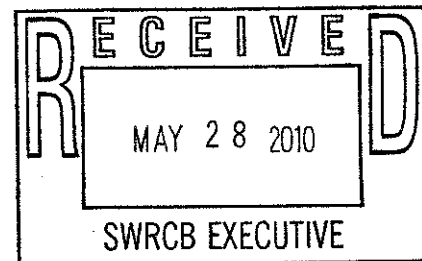


commentletters - Comment Letter re Ventura County Waterways

From: carmen ramirez <ramirezmcar@gmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 5/28/2010 12:12 AM
Subject: Comment Letter re Ventura County Waterways

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May 28, 2010
Charlie Hoppin, Chair and Board Members
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via Electronic Mail: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

RE: State Water Board's Proposed 2010 California 305(b)/303(d) Integrated Report

Dear Chair Hoppin and Board Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Water Board's Proposed 2010 California 305 (b)/303(d) Integrated Report. I am a concerned resident of Ventura County and I know that this process can help us reduce the degradation of our precious waterways, which we seem to have taken for granted for a very long time.

I ask that the State Water Board adopt all of the 1,464 new 303(d) listings proposed in the 2010 Integrated Report, and advocate that State and Regional Water Board staff swiftly implement enforceable and accountable strategies to clean up the state's waters. I especially ask that the Board adopt these new Ventura County water-body pollutant combinations proposed for addition to the 303(d) list in the 2010 report:

Calleguas Creek Watershed: Calleguas Creek Reaches 2, 3, 7, 9A, 9B, and 10 (Trash)

Santa Clara River Watershed: Santa Clara River Estuary (Toxicity; Nitrogen, Nitrate); Santa Clara River Estuary Beach – Surfer's Knoll (Indicator Bacteria); Santa Clara River Reach 3 (Total Dissolved Solids, Toxicity); Santa Clara River Reach 5 (Iron); Santa Clara River Reach 6 (Benthic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments, Iron, Copper); Santa Clara River Reach 11 (Specific Conductance, Total Dissolved Solids); Surfer's Point at Seaside (Indicator Bacteria)

Ventura River Watershed: Canada Larga (Total Dissolved Solids); Coyote Creek North Fork (Indicator Bacteria, Selenium); San Antonio Creek (Total Dissolved Solids, Indicator Bacteria); Ventura River Reach 3 (Indicator Bacteria)

While these proposed 303(d) listings are of grave concern, is a notable achievement by State and Regional Water Board staff with respect to careful review of and attention to available data. Almost four decades after Congress promised fishable, drinkable waterways with the creation of the Clean Water Act, the 2010 Integrated Report details the severe impairment of more than 1,700 of our waterways, representing over 3,500 303(d) listings. We must strive to achieve the goals of the Clean Water Act. We humans and all of the life in our water systems must have clean water. It is high time that we take action to restore our waterways to health.

Californians deserve clean, thriving, flowing waterways, now and in the future. I therefore urge the State Board's adoption of the recommended additions to the 2010 303(d) list throughout California and in Ventura County's: Calleguas Creek watershed, Santa Clara River watershed, Ventura River watershed, and coastal waters, and look forward to seeing them restored to ecological integrity.

Sincerely,
M. Carmen Ramirez