

**commentletters - COMMENT LETTER AB2121 POLICY -- attention, Jeanine Townsend,
Clerkto the Board**

From: David C Goheen <virtdave@mcn.org>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 3/24/2010 10:05 PM
Subject: COMMENT LETTER AB2121 POLICY -- attention, Jeanine Townsend, Clerkto the Board

I have sent a comment via surface mail which should arrive by noon March 26, 2010, your deadline regarding the Proposed State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Instream Flow Policy. I would like to add some further concerns to that comment, as follows:

- I am a volunteer firefighter in our local VFD. If the proposed instream flow policy is adopted, and adversely affects our ability to keep our hydrants fully functional (this has been identified by the manager--who is also a member of our VFD--of our water company at The Sea Ranch as a serious concern), we could face a disaster in combating structure fires here. The Sea Ranch has an award-winning fire-load mitigation program, but without water a fire department can do very little, and despite our best efforts, fire is a significant worry here.
- We have been unable to ascertain the status of our application for continuing water access which our water company assures us was submitted to you approximately 15 months ago, and thus have not been able to ascertain whether indeed the proposed Flow Policy will in fact impact us.
- The water we draw from the aquifer near the Gualala River seems to be independent of the river water. If this is so, it's unlikely that our using the aquifer supply would affect river flow.
- The two open meetings which were held, one reportedly in Ukiah, the other in Santa Rosa, were unknown to virtually all of the people at The Sea Ranch who are supplied by our water company.
- Some home-owners at The Sea Ranch are currently trying to sell their homes. The Proposed Instream Flow Policy must clearly be divulged as a possible future concern in such a sale. The uncertainty compounds this problem.
- It appears that the Policy does not take into consideration the details of the hydrology or geology of the Gualala River.
- Homeowners at The Sea Ranch have already taken significant water-conservation measures, and we are informed that our per-capita usage is extremely low. If the Policy does indeed apply to The Sea Ranch water supply, we would suffer significant economic and environmental loss.

Thank you for your attention.



has notified the sender that this message has been received.

