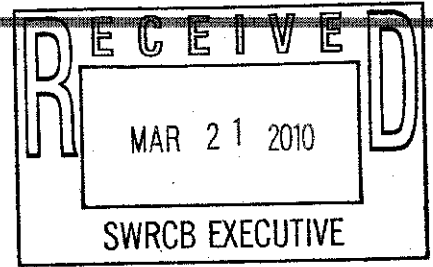


**commentletters - Instream flows policy**

**From:** lois lindstrom <loislindstrom@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** 3/21/2010 6:07 PM  
**Subject:** Instream flows policy  
**CC:** <ecarrillo@sonoma-county.org>



We are owners at Sea Ranch which uses water from the Gualala river to fill the reservoir. We understand you are considering a proposal that will have an extremely detrimental impact on our ability to get water to our community. This community provides a large amount of tax benefit to both Sonoma and Mendocino county and to the economies in both counties as well as the towns surrounding our community - most of which are low income and poor communities who will have a severe economic downturn if our community is not there with tourists, homeowners and renters supporting them. They can hardly handle such an economic hit at this already difficult economic time with tourism already down. Imagine what will happen if we have no water to support us and them?

We as a community are generous and caring people who also provide substantial charitable contributions to the medical programs in the surrounding areas as well as for the needy, poor and elderly. This occurs both through tourism we attract as well as fundraisers we support.

The plan you are considering - which will effect the lower section of the Gualala river - is not needed or necessary for the environment and in fact may be more harmful than helpful to the lower end of the river. This plan is really only proper for inland sections of rivers not the sections we are using for our water. Your plan is not scientifically based as to any studies for this section of the Gualala river.

If we cannot get sufficient water for our community it will have devastating effects on the viability of our community and the detriment will be felt well beyond Sea Ranch as we are left with the inability to maintain a community that offers lodging and rentals as well as homes for vacationers and fulltime residents. This action will destroy the ability to maintain the community in this manner. This will reduce the tax base, the economic benefits to the surrounding communities and the counties which we help support not to mention the devastating effect on property values being even further impacted than they already have been in this recession forcing more people to not be able to continue to afford their homes without rental income that could not be supported without water.

We are extremely water conscious in Sea Ranch and use a very low amount per household. We as a community are very environmentally sensitive. This new policy is too far reaching and is not needed or properly scientifically researched or based for our section of the Gualala River.

The option is for us to spend millions to find another source of water which will severely impact us financially and may not even be feasible considering the limited number of people who own homes on Sea Ranch and the limited income many of our older population have. This is an unfair and unnecessary action that has not considered the detrimental impact it will have. Please take the time to fully understand what this will do to many people - not only those residing or owning property at Sea Ranch.

Thank you for being more thoughtful before taking this step that impacts many more than you may have perceived or anticipated.

Respectively, Lois & Harry Lindstrom - 329 Paraiso Drive, Danville, CA 94526 & 41526 Hatchway,

Sea Ranch, CA.