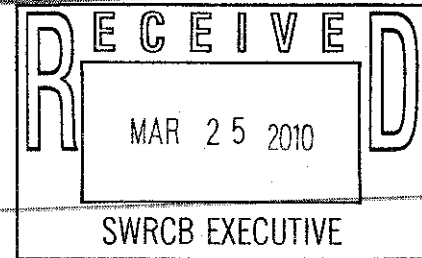


commentletters - COMMENT LETTER--AB2121 POLICY

From: Marti Campbell <campbell@mcn.org>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 3/25/2010 3:46 PM
Subject: COMMENT LETTER--AB2121 POLICY



To the California State Water Resources Control Board:

I am a resident of The Sea Ranch, and am writing with regard to the Proposed Draft Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams. As noted in the March 23 letter to you from our Chairman of the Board, Jim Jordan, the Association's preliminary assessment of the potential impacts of this draft policy is that it could lead to a situation where our community would consistently run out of water even in non-drought years.

Our community was founded nearly 50 years ago as an environmentally-sensitive coastal community. We retain our sensitivity to the environment, and have very low per capita water usage, partly because of our landscaping restrictions and partly because our residents are careful with our resources. As noted in Mr. Jordan's letter, we have a reservoir from which we draw water during periods of low water flow in the Gualala River, even though we take water from the aquifers beneath the river and not from the river itself. Our water company is regulated by the CPUC. We have been responsive to State agencies, including the SWRCB, throughout the life of our community.

Rather than repeat many of the points I'm sure you've seen from other correspondents, I'd like to take a step back to express my concern that a State agency would consider passing a regulation which could deprive an established community of sufficient water for that community to continue to exist. I am especially dismayed that there was not wider and more discrete communication given to residents in the community earlier in the process, when you evidently held hearings in Santa Rosa and Healdsburg. I don't understand why there was not a direct mailing to residents of coastal communities whose water access could be threatened by your policy, so that we could have studied this complex set of issues more thoroughly and given our feedback to you earlier in the process. I never received such a mailing, nor was there any notice provided in our local newspaper, the Independent Coast Observer (based in Gualala).

I urge you to extend this comment period for 90 days so that we can more thoroughly and responsibly respond to you about this important issue, and that you conduct regional workshops for coastal communities affected by this policy.

Thank you,

Martha Campbell
30 Clippers Reach
P.O. Box 298
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497
(please note that we do not have street mail delivery)

cc: Efren Carrillo, Sonoma County Supervisor
Wesley Chesbro, California State Assemblymember
Pat Wiggins, State Senator

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger