

From: [natalie shapiro](#)
To: [commentletters](#)
Subject: comments on proposed wetlands rule
Date: Friday, September 8, 2017 9:27:30 PM



September 8, 2017

Natalie Shapiro

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**Comments on proposed “Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill
Materials to Waters of the State”**

Felicia Marcus Chair and Board Members State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Marcus and Board:

Please support the proposed statewide wetlands policy regulation (“Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State”). Because President Trump is rolling back federal protections for wetlands, the state of California unfortunately will have to take the lead on protecting these important natural resources. The State Water Resources Control Board can be a leader in protecting wetlands, so please adopt the “Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State”.

I also ask to make two changes in this proposed regulation. One is to change the new compensatory mitigation policy so that for every wetland acre destroyed or degraded, there must be at least an acre of newly restored or created wetlands.

The other change, in the “Alternatives Analysis” section, states that every wetland-destroying project must submit an “Alternatives Analysis” showing why the project can’t be done on a non-wetland site. However, the policy then states that a Regional Water Board can ignore the Alternatives Analysis requirement for any project and it doesn’t have to provide a reason. Please make sure that an Alternatives Analysis must be preformed for every project.

Sincerely,

Natalie Shapiro