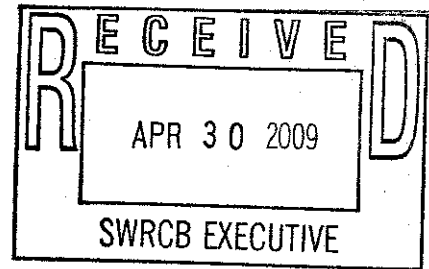


From: Ramona McSweeney <themeangrammie@hotmail.com>
To: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov
Date: Thu, Apr 30, 2009 6:44 AM



Dear Jeanine Townsend,

I am writing to express my protest against the proposal to lower water flows at Russian River this year. While I understand the need to adjust our water usage due to lower than average rainfall this past winter, I believe that reducing flows to the degree suggested will have an unjustifiable negative impact on Russian River communities, both human and otherwise. The River is a valuable natural resource that supports a wide variety of life, providing a natural habitat for plants, animals, birds and fish, and such minimal flows are sure to take its toll on their survival. In addition, many people - families already struggling in these difficult economic times - depend on the regular seasonal influx of travelers to the Russian River area to patronize their businesses and services. Add to this the impact of a diminished ability for the public to utilize the River as a recreational venue, and I think we should be compelled to seek another alternative to this plan.

Please give thoughtful consideration to this ill-conceived plan to reduce Russian River water flows so drastically, and the effects it will have.

Sincerely,

Ramona and Thomas

9050 Argonne Way,

McSweeney

Forestville, CA, 95436

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