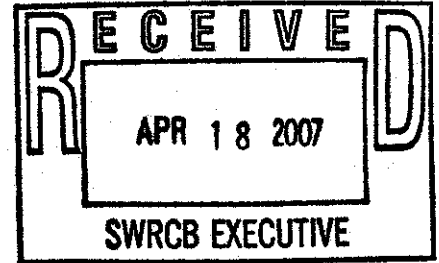


April 17, 2007

State Water Quality Control Board
Song Her, Clerk to the Board, Executive Office
P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Re: Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy

Dear State Water Quality Control Board members,

I am writing on behalf of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin, representing over 1100 members in the State of California. We support Alternative Four, which is best for the long-term health of our watersheds and the people that rely on them.

Please protect California's rivers, wetlands and riparian areas, which are key biodiversity hotspots and provide important habitat for most of the wildlife species that reside in the state. Protecting these water resources is integral to ensure clean drinking water, control flooding and minimize new endangered species listings. Alternative Four provides the forward-thinking, long-term minded direction that we need to help guide us into the future.

The State of California has already lost the vast majority of its historic wetlands and riparian areas to human development and shortsighted decision-making. Now is the time to conserve what little riparian area and wetlands the State has left for the benefit of all California citizens, not just developers and industry.

Please support Alternative Four of the Proposed Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy, because it provides the most extensive potential to protect and preserve the state's vital water resources for present and future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Smith".

Frederick Smith
Executive Director
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin