

Comments to SF Regional WQ Control Board, March 10, 2021 Meeting

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1. The Point Reyes National Seashore has permitted dairy and beef ranches since the park's founding.
2. These ranches have polluted our State waters consistently without adequate oversight and remediation by the Park.
3. Studies for the last 30 years show high rates of exceedances for coliform bacteria, Nitrogen, sediment, and other typical ranch pollutants.
4. The Park has asserted that additional BMPs will solve the problem. However, at least two recent studies show frequent WQ violations in watersheds where BMPs have been put into place.
5. You commented to the Park in 2019 on the DEIS for their plan to extend the ranch leases. Your letter stated that "additional actions are needed to resolve" these WQ problems.
6. The Park intends to allow the ranchers to add small livestock. You found that this "will lead to new exceedances" and that the extra discharges "cannot be easily remediated."
7. So, the ranches are in violation of State WQ standards and the Park intends to increase livestock. **Please urge the Park to not extend the leases for 20 years.**

Thank you.