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Rosemarie Benz and  
 (Name, Please Print)  
 Sandra Benz-Williams  
 6240 Empire Gade  
 (Street Address)  
 Santa Cruz CA 95060  
 (Town) (Zip Code)



October, 2005

Craig J. Wilson, Chief  
 Water Quality Assessment Unit  
 Division of Water Quality  
 State Water Resources Control Board  
 P. O. Box 100  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am responding to the NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS and request for public comment on the REVISION TO FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS FOR CALIFORNIA. I strongly oppose the delisting of the Laguna de Santa Rosa for Nitrogen and Phosphorus. Please place me on your notification list for interested parties, and inform your Board about my correspondence on this matter. I would also like to receive the notice for the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting as soon as possible.

My first concern is related to the lack of public process at the local level. I understand that the Water Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Section 6.2, requires, "At a public hearing, the RWQCB shall consider and approve each proposed list change as documented in water body fact sheet. Advance notice and opportunity for public comment shall be provided." Why is the only hearing taking place in Sacramento? Elimination of Regional Board hearings in Santa Rosa has in effect deprived many Sonoma County residents the opportunity to give first hand accounts of the many Laguna problems. Furthermore, I would like to know how many people in Sonoma County received the Public Notice about the Sacramento hearing in December on this issue? How was your meeting publicized here?

I am deeply concerned about the infestation of the Laguna de Santa Rosa by exotic plants such as Ludwigia, which is multiplying at such a prodigious rate that a very controversial chemical eradication program was initiated recently at a cost of \$1.5 million. There is evidence that these plants provide habitat for mosquitoes, feared to be spreading West Nile virus, as well as degrading fish habitat. The eradication program is limited to only the two worst sections of the infestation, and if nutrients continue to be discharged, the situation could get much worse.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not delist the Laguna for nutrients.

Sincerely,

*Sandra Benz-Williams*  
 (Signature)

10/1/05  
 (Date)

*please see note on other side*

Dear Mr. Wilson -

We have had a summer home on the Russian River at 11057 Sunset Avenue in Forestville since 1929. Our family has seen many changes over the years - one of the saddest however is the lack of healthy wildlife & fish in & along the river.

The impact of progress is inevitable but we as human beings do have the ability and hopefully the will to consider our impact on future generations. Please do not delist the Tofura - monitoring the environment is a small step in the right direction of preserving our waterways & natural habitats. Thank you for your consideration. Sandra Benz Williams