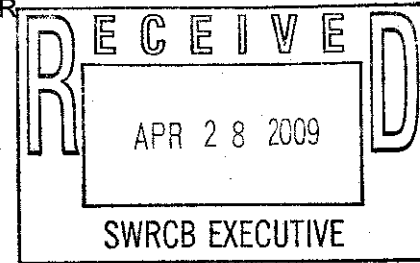


5/6/09 Board Workshop
SCWA - TUC Petition
Deadline: 4/30/09 by 12 noon

From: Anja Loba GoodEagle Moon <anjaloba@yahoo.com>
To: randy.poole@scwa.ca.gov; commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov
Date: Tue, Apr 28, 2009 1:21 PM
Subject: Comments for May 6th Workshop on Order: WR 2009-0027-DWR



Sonoma County Water Agency Temporary Urgency Change Petition Workshop

I live on the Russian River and am concerned about the fish, birds, and other wild life that will negatively affected by dropping the water flows.

It is unclear what the 25% cut in diversions will cover and how much water that actually represents. Contractors are asked to cut back 25%, but if that is based on 2004 use, it only represents 10% in new cuts. Contractors should be required to cut back 25% based on 2007 use.

Cities have accomplished meaningful conservation since 2004, but it has included the easier things to do. Now the cities are being asked to do the harder work and they are resisting. There has been little new conservation since 2007. In 2007 cities still use 40% more water in the summer than in the winter. THE CUT TO THE LOWER RIVER FLOWS IS ABOUT 70%!!!

We support major efforts in getting rid of turf grass that utilizes a huge proportion of that water and is subject to over irrigation in many cases.

We are concerned that inadequate means and authorities exist to curb agricultural and other city waste of this water. (Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Ukiah, etc.) Something needs to be spelled out to force these water users to make significant cut backs. (SCWA does not have adequate authority.)

There are a large number of illegal diversions and little is being done about this. Furthermore, tributary use is over allocated with permits and there are many illegal diversions on the tribs and little is being done about it. The tribs represent some of the water to the lower river that is being lost due to over-use.

This flow reduction is having and likely to have further major environmental consequences in the lower river to the fish and the environment in terms of high temperatures (in an already temperature impaired water body), nutrients and invasive plants.

The very low flows would greatly impair the lower river's tourist economy and would devastate opportunities for fishing, swimming, canoeing, and other recreational uses.

Thank you.

Loba Moon
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