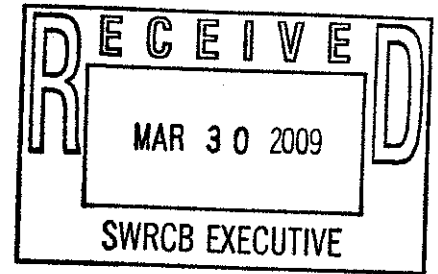


Chairman Charles Hoppin
State Water Resources Control Board
PO Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Re; Russian River Frost Protection Water Use Ban.

Dear Chairman Hoppin,

The recent surprise, decision by your staff and NMFS banning the use of Russian River water for frost protection is inexcusable.

I am not a farmer, but I live in the Russian River basin. As I understand it, last year a task force was formed to create protocols for diversion of the water for frost while insuring the health of fish in the river. This decision asked our community to potentially take a 65 MILLION dollar hit.

It is obvious to me that your staff did not consider any cost/benefit analysis of this action. They have shredded any good will or trust built up by the task-force's work.

In light of the recent action on the 885 bill it's hard to reach any conclusion except that the Water Resources Control Board and its staff are a bureaucracy run amuck, who don't give a damn about the people they are supposed to serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce D. Foster".

Bruce D. Foster