

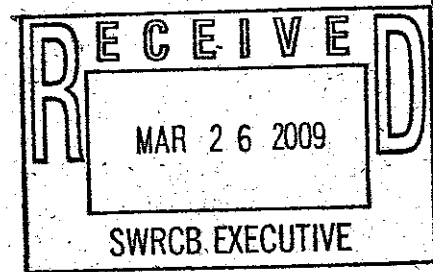
# PATIANNA

Organic Vineyards



March 18, 2009

Chairman Charles Hoppin  
& Board Members  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Post Office Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



**RE: Russian River Frost Protection Prohibition ~ URGENT**

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have been working in and around vineyards and a winery for most of my life. My many years of experience in our family owned winery, Fetzer Vineyards and now my own Patianna Organic Vineyards will hopefully catch your attention as an added voice along with many growers facing the critical "Emergency Regulations" banning the use of water for frost protection in the Russian River Basin this year.

The realistic possibility of crop losses in Mendocino County alone would be devastating to many families. The "trickle down" effect would not only affect the vineyard/winery owners, but would include and not limited to vineyard workers, winery workers, winery supply companies, grower supply companies, harvest workers, administration employees, packaging companies, vehicle/equipment dealerships & their families. The list goes on, as does the loss of revenue.

There are reasonable resolutions that would minimize impacts. We have attended meetings with the Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District and are members of several agricultural and winery organizations, along with so many Mendocino County and Sonoma County concerned residents. The crop losses would be astronomical to the cities, counties and the State of California.

Due to frost season and the extreme critical crisis present, an emergency plan needs to be implemented immediately, without delay. A long term solution should then be developed. We as taxpayers rely on your representation.

Respectfully,

Patti Fetzer, Owner  
(707) 744-8706