

(received via e-mail)

**From:** LEILA McGOWAN  
**To:** <smcconnell@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** 3/2/2009 2:27 PM  
**Subject:** Support for the Rubicon Trail Cleanup and Abatement Order

I am writing to express my support for the draft Cleanup and Abatement Order issued on January 23, 2009 by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to the El Dorado County Department of Transportation. Destructive and unchecked off-road vehicle use resulting in ongoing resource damage on the Rubicon Trail is very disturbing. The Board must act now to stop increased erosion, soil compaction, and damage to plants and animals. I support the Regional Board's effort to prevent this situation from worsening even further and believe that such actions are long overdue.

The adoption of this order would be a positive first step in addressing the off-road vehicle use that is degrading water quality in the area and threatening both human and environmental health, including the destruction of rare riparian habitat.

I commend the Regional Board and staff for their excellent assessment of the impacts on the Rubicon from off-road vehicle use and initiating the process needed to stop this damage from continuing. I also applaud you for finally taking action -- action that is long overdue -- and ask that the draft Cleanup and Abatement Order be formally adopted.

LEILA McGOWAN