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March 7, 2009



Pamela Creedon  
Executive Officer  
CVRWQCB  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Dear Ms. Creedon:

This letter is in support of the findings of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board study of damage inflicted to the Rubicon Trail by off-road vehicles. I support a Cleanup and Abatement plan that includes a winter wet season closure, adopting a management plan, use quotas, user fees to help pay for it, elimination of extreme vehicles, and enforcement of out-of-bounds violations.

It is highly likely that responsible 4 x 4 drivers who venture out to enjoy the scenery and camaraderie, especially those with families, also would appreciate the absence of mindless gear grinders and rock crawlers whose extreme actions are incompatible with an area of such incomparable beauty and historical significance. In past years I have used the Loon Lake trailhead to explore remote areas south and west of the Rubicon Trail. Knowing that a less protected, but no less beautiful section of the El Dorado National Forest has been restored to traditional, responsible four-wheel drive use would be a great satisfaction to me.

I urge the CVRWQCB to draft and implement a strong final Cleanup and Abatement Order so that El Dorado County will have a road map for improvement, guidelines for users, and a timetable for implementation.

Sincerely,

William L. Buchanan

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