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September 11, 2014

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attn: Wendy Wyels, Supervisor
Compliance and Enforcement Section
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

RE: Rescission of Cleanup and Abatement Order R5-2009-0030

Dear Ms. Wyels:

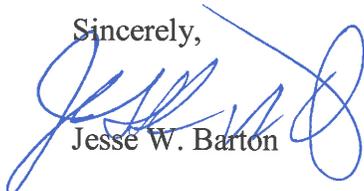
The Rubicon Trail Foundation (RTF) is pleased that the Water Board staff has recommended that the Cleanup and Abatement Order for the Rubicon Trail be rescinded. This letter is in support of that action. Friends of the Rubicon volunteers, this foundation, the County of El Dorado, and the Eldorado National Forest have expended thousands of dollars and hours of labor to fulfill the requirements of the CAO. Furthermore, RTF and Friends of the Rubicon volunteers have pledged to operate and maintain the improvements installed by the County.

Since the inception of the CAO, Friends of the Rubicon and the Rubicon Trail Foundation have accomplished the following:

- Completed an accurate Trail count study
- Ensured that educated staff would be on the Trail every day of the high use season for the past five years
- Installed mileage markers and trail signage to delineate the Trail
- Instituted multiple FOTR volunteer projects on the Trail including education, engineering, and mapping efforts
- Expanded amateur radio communications to improve safety (repeater installation and 500 licensed operators)
- Placed nine new bathrooms on the Trail
- Emptied and cleaned the bathrooms placed on the Trail for the past three years
- Implemented a long-term Adopt-A-Trail program
- Assisted the County and the Forest with historical, social, and cultural trail knowledge

Rubicon Trail Foundation is proud of the part we have played in compliance with the CAO. We are here for the long term and expect to foster collaboration, improvements, volunteerism, education, and care of this trail and the Rubicon area into the future. There is no longer a need for the Cleanup and Abatement Order; the Rubicon Trail is now a model that stakeholders in other trail systems are striving for.

Sincerely,



Jesse W. Barton