

David Woelfel  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Bd.  
3737 Main St., Suite 500  
Riverside, CA 92501

**RE: 2006 Triennial Review Priority List**

*Dear Mr. Woelfel:*

On behalf of several water agencies<sup>1</sup> in the upper Santa Ana River watershed, I write to request minor modifications to the proposed Triennial Review Priority List (dated 8/23/2006).

Item #10 on the priority list identifies several creeks that may be resegmented and reclassified "as a result of the FERC relicensing" process. The water agencies believe it is appropriate to update the designated uses for these streams and look forward to working with staff on this issue.

We are concerned that the current wording of item #10 may, unintentionally, limit the range of alternatives that should be investigated or that can be adopted by the Regional Board. We fear that were other segmentation strategies or use designations to be proposed, some may argue that such alternatives were not properly noticed in the Triennial Review and cannot be considered.

Therefore, we recommend that the item #10 be revised as follows:

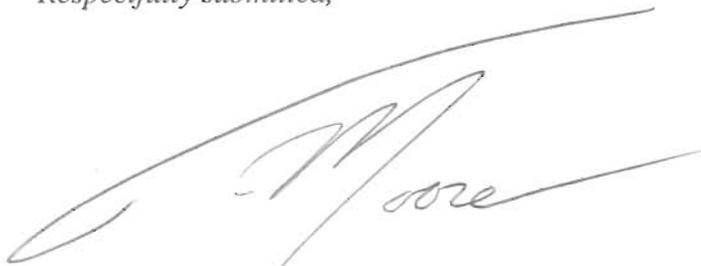
*"Add new reaches and designate appropriate beneficial uses (Table 3-1 and Table 4.1) for Lytle Creek, Mill Creek and the upper Santa Ana River based on new information gathered during the FERC relicensing process. A regional Task Force will be formed to recommend stream segmentation strategies and determine how best to describe the existing and potential beneficial uses for each segment (e.g. WARM and/or COLD, Intermittent or Perennial, etc.) The Task Force will be open to the public and all interested stakeholders will be encouraged to participate."*

<sup>1</sup> Agencies include: San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, City of San Bernardino, City of Redlands, Yucaipa Valley Water District, West San Bernardino Water Conservation District, East Valley Water District and Bear Valley Mutual Water Company.

We believe the purpose of the Triennial Review Priority List is to identify the issues that Regional Board staff will work on over the next three years. The list should not proscribe the specific Board action that may result as each issue is addressed. Doing so may unnecessarily complicate CEQA compliance and public notification requirements at some future date as it makes it appear that the Board has predetermined the outcome of an issue where it has not yet received public comments or held public hearings.

All of the aforementioned water agencies were deeply involved in the FERC relicensing process for many years. We strongly support the Regional Board staff's recommendation to consider updating the segment boundaries and use designations on Lytle Creek, Mill Creek and the upper Santa Ana River. We look forward to working closely with staff, and other affected stakeholders, in the new Task Force.

*Respectfully submitted,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Moore', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

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Cc:

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City of San Bernardino  
City of Redlands  
Yucaipa Valley Water District  
West San Bernardino Water Conservation District  
East Valley Water District  
Bear Valley Mutual Water Company.