

Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Madigan, John@Waterboards
Subject: Public Comment - Calistoga Wastewater Treatment Plant Tentative Cease and Desist Order No R2-2104

Categories: Important

Mr. Madigan,

Pursuant to the request for public comment concerning the discharge of waste water from the Calistoga Dunaweal Wastewater Treatment Plant into the Napa River, I offer the following for your consideration. As clearly stated in the Tentative Cease and Desist Order No. R2-2104, The City of Calistoga has repeatedly allowed treated / semi-treated wastewater to flow from the Dunaweal treatment ponds directly into the Napa River. The impact on the Napa River and magnitude of the discharge events became acutely apparent during the time of low 2014-15 winter rainfall with the foam and sludge discharges being noted and recorded by concerned Calistoga residents. With City Council approval of the construction of several hotel / resort developments, the burden on the existing wastewater treatment plant will clearly increase – and, the current infrastructure is inadequate to address that demand.

With the significant investment by winery and vineyard owners adjacent to the Napa River in the restoration of that waterway, the scrutiny of the River due to its' federally impaired status and the right of folks (and fish) to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the Napa River, it's alarming that a municipal entity would disregard Water Board Permit guidelines addressing discharge procedures. I support the remedies the Water Board delineates in (Order No R2-2014) Tables I and 2 and believe the enforcement of the provisions of Water Code 13301 have great merit and prudently protect the environment.

Sincerely,

Hal Huffsmith