April 18, 2007

Song Her, Clerk of the Board
Executive Office
State Water Resources Control Board
P. O. Box #100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

RE: Comment Letter – Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy

Dear Song Her:

This letter is being written in response to the State Water Board’s proposal to develop a "Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy," for the purpose of filling the gap in wetland regulation. While the Riverside County Waste Management Department (RCWMD) totally supports protection and enhancement of these vital resources, the RCWMD is opposed in concept to any policy that leads to further layers of onerous regulations, requirements, and permitting, especially when there is no consistency in judging and mitigating impacts to wetland and riparian areas within or among the currently responsible resource agencies. Unless this proposed policy and subsequent regulatory change(s) lead to consistency in interpretation of the Clean Water Act and streamlined permitting and requirements, the RCWMD would only support the "No Action" alternative.

Sincerely,

Lesley Likins
Solid Waste Planning Manager

E-mail: comment.letters@waterboards.ca.gov