

07/19/06 BdMtg Item 5
Big River/Salmon Creek
Deadline: 7/14/06 @ 5pm

From: Alan Levine <alevine@mcn.org>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Wed, Jul 12, 2006 8:52 AM
Subject: State Revolving Fund loan - Big River Salmon Creek Conservation Project

Ms. Tam M. Doduc
Chair, State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SRF Loan Number C-06-6090-110/Big River and Salmon Creek Conservation Project

Dear Ms. Doduc,

Coast Action Group is writing in support of a SWRCB approving a State Revolving Fund loan to The Conservation Fund to assist with the purchase of approximately 16,400 acres of forestland in the Big River and Salmon Creek watersheds in Mendocino County.

The use of State Revolving Fund for this protect is a very positive step in protecting coastal forests and addressing important water quality and other beneficial uses on the North Coast.

Use of a State Revolving Fund loan, in combination with other pledged funds, will help to set new standards and demonstration of forest management and water quality improvement potential in stressed forestlands of the North Coast of California. This project will achieve and demonstrate important water quality protection and enhancement goals identified in a number of State plans and policies relating to water quality and other beneficial uses, including State TMDL policy, Nonpoint Source policy, Anti-degradation objectives, and Department of Fish and Game's Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon.

The water quality protection and enhancement objectives of this plan will be achieved by implementing state of the art water quality protective practices, and long term sustainable forest practices/ silvicultural management. Permanent protection of these properties will occur through conservation easement(s) as well as the identified management measures.

It can not be overstated how important it is to demonstrate the effectiveness of appropriate, science based, and field proven sustainable and protective application of this level of management standard. This project can make a difference in solving problems in all of our stressed forests on California's North Coast.

Please approve the proposed loan for the acquisition of the Big River and Salmon Creek properties. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

For

Coast Action Group

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