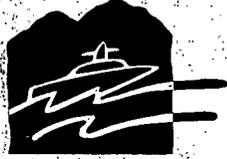


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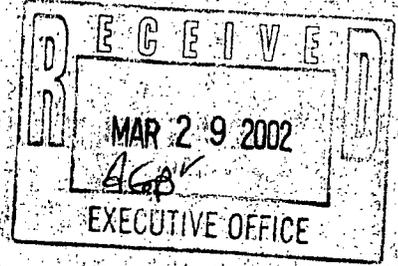


ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER

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DWQ Received
Division Chief's Office

APR 5 2002



March 25, 2002

Mr. Art Baggett, Chairman
State Water Resources Control Board
Executive Offices
1001 I Street
P. O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

cy: *[Signature]* / DWQ
KAT
CJW

RE: Inclusion of Newport Coast creeks on 303d list

Dear Art:

Last year Orange County CoastKeeper proposed to the Regional Board staff four Newport Coast Creeks that drained into the ocean (ASBS's) be included on the 303d list. We submitted our concerns to the staff and bacteria sampling data. We suggested they contact the County of Orange and review the weekly bacteria sampling data. Upon review, the staff not only included our proposed creeks, but also included additional creeks to their list of proposed 303d inclusions.

Now there appears to be some local opposition to the new proposed listings by a Newport Coast Homeowners Association. I am addressing them next month to explain our concerns. I have discussed this with The Irvine Company, as they were not pleased with the inclusions.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Please review the enclosed photos of children and toddlers playing daily in these creeks as they flow across the beach in the middle of summer, laden with bacteria and the typical pollutants found in urban runoff. As we were diverting water from Buck gully to the sewage plant for several summer months, we would find this to be a daily occurrence on these beaches. Parents are more comfortable with their small children playing in these flows than the more intimidating surf.

We ask that you support the Region 8 staff recommendation for the inclusions of these Newport Coast creeks on the 303d list. There is no question that recreation takes place in these creeks on a daily basis during the summer.

Best regards,



Garry Brown
Executive Director



Your Gonna Let Us Play In Polluted Runnoff?

