Ms. Alexis Strauss, Director
Water Division (WTR-1)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Strauss:

AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COAST REGION (BASIN PLAN) TO ESTABLISH A WATSONVILLE SLOUGH TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) FOR PATHOGENS, ESTABLISH A WATSONVILLE SLOUGH WATERSHED LIVESTOCK WASTE DISCHARGE PROHIBITION, AND REMOVE THE SHELLFISH HARVESTING BENEFICIAL USE FROM WATSONVILLE SLOUGH AND TRIBUTARIES

Pursuant to federal Clean Water Act sections 303(c)(2) and 303(d)(2), we are submitting for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) approval an amendment to the Basin Plan that establishes a Watsonville Slough TMDL for pathogens, establishes a Watsonville Slough watershed livestock waste discharge prohibition, and removes the shellfish harvesting beneficial use from Watsonville Slough and its tributaries. This amendment was adopted by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) on March 24, 2006 under Resolution No. R3-2006-0025. The Basin Plan amendment was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on September 21, 2006 under Resolution No. 2006-0067. Amendment documentation (portions of the Central Coast Water Board administrative record, State Water Board administrative record, and Office of Administrative Law approval) is being sent separately to Cheryl McGovern for review of the TMDL and Matt Mitchell of your office for review of the standards action.

We look forward to receiving your approval of this Basin Plan amendment. If you have any questions on this subject, you may contact me at (916) 341-5458 (Dpolhemus@waterboards.ca.gov). You may also contact Michael Buckman, Environmental Scientist in the Planning, Standards, and Implementation Unit, at (916) 341-5479 (mbuckman@waterboards.ca.gov), who is the lead staff on this amendment.

Sincerely,

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality

cc: (See next page)
cc: (Continuation page)

(with amendment documentation)

Ms. Cheryl McGovern WTR-4
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
    Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Matt Mitchell WTR-5
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
    Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

cc: (without amendment documentation)

Mr. David Guilano WTR-2
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
    Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Kathy Goforth WTR-5
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Mr. Doug E. Eberhardt WTR-5
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Mr. Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
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Ms. Lisa McCann
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