

Sent via email: January 21, 2015

From: Wendy S Bertrand [<mailto:eyeonplace@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 9:38 AM
To: Mangelsdorf, Alydda@Waterboards
Subject: Designation of the Smith River on March 11, 12, 2015

**Alydda Mangelsdorf, Supervisor, Planning Unit
and Matt St. John, Executive Officer**
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board,
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, California 95403

Regarding Triennial Review of CA North Coast Regional Basin Plan-
Task 11 Designate Wild and Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW) for the Smith River, focusing on the three forks (including tributaries) of the Smith River, converging at Jedediah Redwoods National and State Park, as a high priority

I urge you to increase the level of quality of the Smith River to Wild and Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW) at the hearing on March 11 and 12, 2015.

As a home owner and resident of Gasquet in Del Norte County living not far from the river for 24 years, drinking the water, swimming in the river, and spending time to learn about and protect the river, I am aware of threats to this irreplaceable, pristine, wild water natural gem.

Currents threats include increased mining, homes developed without regard to riparian zones limits set by Fish and Game, and Caltrans projects to widen parts of highway 197/199 for the purpose of allowing super long trucks to travel in the narrow winding canyon riparian corridor making it a truck route, with all the disruption to the natural environment trucks bring and new risk of accidents to the river.

Local administrations, government bodies, and the Gasquet Community Service District tend to take the river for granted, have few resources, and do not strongly enforce good practices to respect this outstanding national resource, making the need for the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to set the highest standard possible and to bring attention to the necessity to steward this portion of the Smith River flowing primarily on public lands as a national treasure.

Respectfully,

Wendy Bertrand, Architect
Post Office Box 22, Gasquet
California, 95543