



**SERRANO WATER DISTRICT
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Directors

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November 30, 2016

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Wanda Cross (wanda.cross@waterboards.ca.gov)
David Woelfel (david.woelfel@waterboards.ca.gov)
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501

Re: October 10, 2016 Proposed Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan
for the Santa Ana River Basin (Proposed "COMM" for Irvine Lake)

Dear Ms. Cross and Mr. Woelfel:

Serrano Water District (SWD) provides water service to its customers in Villa Park and portions of Orange, California. Together with the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD), SWD owns Santiago Reservoir, commonly known as "Irvine Lake," which is a significant source of the water treated and distributed by SWD. SWD also shares ownership with The Irvine Company (TIC) in fishing and other recreational rights associated with Irvine Lake. That reservoir served the public as a commercial recreational fishing venue for over 60 years, until recreational fishing activities were suspended earlier this year at the request of TIC.

SWD recently learned that the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board ("Regional Board") staff has recommended a new beneficial use designation of commercial fishing ("COMM") for Irvine Lake. While Irvine Lake has historically been used for commercial recreational fishing activities for many decades, SWD lacks sufficient information at this point to take a position on the Regional Board's staff recommendation to add the COMM designation to Irvine Lake. For this reason, and in accordance with Water Code §13240, SWD would appreciate meeting with Regional Board staff and staff of IRWD to learn more about the purpose and effect of the COMM designation proposed for Irvine Lake, and the reasons for the Regional Board's staff recommendation, in light of the fact that Irvine Lake has been operated for recreational commercial fishing for over 60 years without this designation. In this way, SWD hopes to gain a more complete understanding both of the significance of the proposed COMM designation and its effect on current and potential future uses and activities at Irvine Lake, so that SWD can take an informed position on the Regional Board staff recommendation.

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Vilander, General Manager

cc: Joel D. Kuperberg, General Counsel, Serrano Water District
Paul Cook, General Manager, Irvine Ranch Water District