

BLUE LAKE RANCHERIA

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Public Comment
Beneficial Uses and Mercury Objectives
Deadline: 2/17/17 12 noon



State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor [95814]
PO Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

February 17, 2017

Re: Comment Letter- Beneficial Uses & Mercury Objectives

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your efforts to protect communities that consume fish at higher than average quantities from harmful levels of contaminants. California's current beneficial use designations result in water quality control plans and permits to pollute our waterways that do not adequately protect tribal communities or other communities that fish for subsistence purposes.

To address this problem, we urge you to:

- Adopt all three proposed beneficial use designations: Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL), Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB), Subsistence Fishing by the general population (SUB).
- Provide a clear process by which tribes may designate waters for cultural and subsistence fishing uses.
- Protect tribes from pollution originating off of tribal lands.
- Protect tribal and subsistence communities from health impacts from lack of healthy fish.

Thank you for your time. Please do not delay in adopting these beneficial uses!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia Brundin".

Claudia Brundin
Tribal Chairperson