

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

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Jeanie Townsend, Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000



Comment Letter-303(d) List portion of the 2014/2016 California Integrated Report

This letter is submitted in response to the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWB) proposed statewide Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list for the 2014 and 2016 California Integrated Report. Specifically, this letter is to convey our organization's support of the recommendations proposed by the Central Valley Regional Water Board (CVRWB) and SWB to list several waterbodies within the Stanislaus National Forest as impaired under Section 303(d) of the CWA.

CSERC is a non-profit environmental organization located in Tuolumne County and has worked to protect fish, wildlife, and water for 25 years in the Northern Yosemite Region of the Central Sierra Nevada. As part of our Center's efforts to protect water in the region, staff have conducted water quality monitoring within the Stanislaus National Forest since 2009, specifically focusing on monitoring water quality conditions in areas of the forest where livestock grazing occurs. Our Center provided fecal coliform and E. coli data for several waterbodies on the Stanislaus National Forest sampled in 2009 and 2010 to the CVRBW. The CVRWB subsequently recommended the listing of several streams our Center submitted bacterial data for, including Bell Cr., Bull Meadow Cr., Niagara Cr., Rose Cr., and a tributary to Jawbone Cr.

Our Center would just like to convey our support of the SWB proposing the listing of four of these waterbodies within the Stanislaus National Forest (Bell Cr., Bull Meadow Cr., Niagara Cr. and Rose Cr.) as impaired under Section 303(d) of the CWA for violations of indicator bacteria thresholds for REC-1 beneficial use based on 2009-2010 data. Since 2010, our Center has continued to collect water quality data and found many more violations in these and other waterbodies within the Stanislaus National Forest, and have provided the data to the CVRWB and submitted the data into the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) database.

Meg Layhee

Aquatic Biologist

Executive Director