

# Information Meetings for Russian River Tributaries

July 9, 2015 (1-4pm)

Santa Rosa, CA

## Note Taker – Esther Tracy

- Metered wells
- Pumping 24 hours a day
- Selling water
- State needs to look into:
  - Bridal Wood Ct. Skyfarm II; Crosscreek is cross road
  - Boden Asphalt Company; trucks extracting water for the past 2 years
- Mark West Creek problem developed when vineyards were put in
- Requiring the community to restrict water use won't stop the problem; Many don't have laws to water
- The community needs well recharge, storm water capture, etc.
- Stop vineyard expansions, put pressure on the county
- Vineyards irrigate once or twice during summer; They use the minimum that plants need
- Vineyard owner experienced a loss of profit as a result of conserving water; He's doing all that he can
- Meetings of vineyard owners always center around discussions on water conservation
- Explanation for new vineyards and new deep wells
  - 500 foot wells in some areas used for houses in area
- Fish (coho and delta smelt) have more rights than humans
- Recommend cloud seeding to create rain
- Long term solution: Recommend desalination plants and water capture from storms
- The money used for the high speed train should have been used for water capture
- The Warm Springs dam water; feeds into Dry Creek
- Short notice of regulations
- Community feels like criminals; anger due to regulations
- Concerned over governmental control using fish as excuse
- Studies and expansion of pilots and models over Russian River area
- Long term solution:
  - Storm water capture
  - Grasslands and soils as water holding sources
  - Grants/funds for solutions
  - Streamline applications to be more accessible to homeowners
- Chemical trails are changing weather patterns; Allow to return to natural weather patterns
- Conservation regulations do not allow for drip irrigation for large trees
  - Use less water than sprinklers
  - What counts is amount of water over period of time
- Ornamental ponds (seasonal) do get fish
- Informational Orders apply to ALL water providers and land owners; Have not been issued yet
- Recreational areas are required to conserve water
- Sediment in tributaries needs to be addressed
  - Old grove redwood property caused landslide
- Concern over the amount of vineyards in the area

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- Excessive pumping at the top of Selena Road
- Wineries are taking the water conservation seriously
  - Water collection during high flow times and using for irrigation
  - Water conservation techniques are shared between wineries
- Fish ladder correction (drawing of Safari West, Franz Valley Road, and Porter Creek Road)
- Executive order that makes fine so high (\$500)
- Older well information not available