

From: "Sara Giannandrea" <sggfg@sbcglobal.net>
To: "Karen Niiya Senior Engineer" <AB2121Policy@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Fri, Apr 18, 2008 9:42 AM
Subject: Comment Letter - AB 2121 Policy

Sara Giannandrea
business owner
Three G's Hay and Grain, Gary Giannandrea Trucking
75 Robert Ct. West
Arcata, CA 95521-5243

April 18, 2008

Karen Niiya Senior Engineer
Division of Water Rights
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD
2008 APR 18 PM 5:00
DIV. OF WATER RIGHTS
SACRAMENTO

Dear Ms. Niiya:

The Draft Policy is not a workable approach to protecting instream flows. Instead of providing water users guidance on appropriate instream flows, the Draft Policy establishes restrictive, regional criteria that severely limit the ability to divert water when it is most plentiful. This misguided attempt to preserve instream flows for the benefit of salmonids fails to follow California water law, fails to help fish, and actually impairs the ability of many farmers to make improvements to fish habitat.

Water in California must be used to its full potential - to benefit habitat as well as agriculture.

Something that is sometimes overlooked is the fact that the same people you are trying to regulate, are your best bets for proper maintenance of said habitat. It is in their interest to keep things balanced. They fight enough battles with Mother Nature, don't add to them by stifling their abilities.

Work with these farmers instead of against them. Listen to their input, they are pretty darned knowledgeable.

Sincerely,

Sara and Gary Giannandrea
Three G's Hay and Grain
and a former farmer's son.

I urge the State Water Board to adopt an alternative policy that is based on sound scientific facts, provides the appropriate balance between economic development and protecting natural habitat and wildlife species, while using water to its full potential.

Sincerely,

Sara Giannandrea
7078222160
business owner
Three G's Hay and Grain, Gary Giannandrea Trucking