

Request #1

SWRCB - IN STREAM
FLOWS POLICY

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January 31, 2008

Via Email

Victoria Whitney
Deputy Director for Water Rights, Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
Post Office Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Draft Instream Flows Policy Information Request

Dear Victoria,

Thank you and your staff for meeting with Nick Bonsignore and John Faux of Wagner & Bonsignore and me on January 23, 2008 to answer questions regarding the Draft Instream Flows Policy. Staff suggested that some of our information requests should be directed to the Board's Policy consultants in writing. I kindly request that you forward the following requests to your consultants:

1. What was the basis for selecting the 13 validation sites? If this is not discussed in the documents (we have been unable to find it) or discussed only cursorily, then we request all notes and memos concerning biological and hydrologic characteristics supporting selection of these sites and characterizing the watersheds above and below these sites.
2. Validation site hydraulics are discussed in Appendix G to the Scientific Basis document. We request the surveyed transects and slope profiles that are mentioned therein along with the hydraulic calculations use to develop the stage-flow rating curves for these sites.
3. How does the short period of gaged record for some validation sites affect the hydrologic analysis and conclusions made therefrom? Some of the periods considered do not appear to encompass all water year types, or provide sufficiently long periods of record to characterize average conditions over the long term.
 - For example, for the validation site "Dry Creek Tributary Near Hopland", only 2 years of gaged data is available (WY 19968 and 1969). Long-term mean annual precipitation at Healdsburg averages about 41.8 inches. Water year precipitation in 1968 was 35.5 inches (85% percent of normal), and in 1969 was 61.4 inches (147% of normal). For the 2 years considered precipitation was 116% of normal.

STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD
2008 MAY - 1 PM 12:00
DIV OF WATER RIGHTS
SACRAMENTO