

From: "Kristi Wrigley" <kwrigley@hughes.net>
To: "Karen Niiya Senior Engineer" <AB2121Policy@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Thu, Apr 17, 2008 9:10 PM
Subject: Comment Letter - AB 2121 Policy

Kristi Wrigley
2550 Wrigley Rd.
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April 18, 2008

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

STATE WATER RIGHTS
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. Farmers have a choice where and when they farm; fish have no choice where they live. Water is their absolutely necessary for their survival and they have no choice where they live. Humans need to provide for these fish; we can farm elsewhere. Do not succumb to the "Economic" diatribe of this administration. Farmers can go elsewhere; fish cannot.

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,

Kristi Wrigley