

**Wetland/Riparian Policy**  
Deadline: 4/19/07 12 noon

**From:** <aaron.cohn@gmail.com>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 10, 2007 6:02 PM  
**Subject:** Comment Letter -Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy

Chair Tam M. Doduc and Board Members  
State Water Resources Control Board

Dear Board members:

Our wetlands, streams and riparian areas are essential to the health of our communities. They purify our surface waters, recharge our groundwater, help control flooding and provide essential habitat to our fish and wildlife.

Despite their importance, hundreds of acres of wetlands and streams are destroyed or degraded every year because recent federal Supreme Court decisions have weakened the ability of the federal government to protect these precious resources.

I am excited and pleased that the State Water Resources Control Board is developing a "Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy". Please make this policy as strong as possible. In particular, I urge you to identify Alternative 4 as your preferred Alternative in the DEIR because it will do the most to protect wetlands and riparian areas while the other alternatives will not do enough.

Please complete this process as rapidly as possible and have an adopted Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy by the end of 2007. We cannot afford to lose any more wetlands and riparian areas.

Sincerely

Aaron Cohn  
847 Mendocino Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707

