

Robert C. Mann  
29876 King Ridge Rd.  
Cazadero, Ca. 95421

STATE WATER RESOURCES  
CONTROL BOARD

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State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I St.  
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

I find it necessary to write down the facts and explanation over this concern by the State Water Resources Control Board of our small lake that was constructed back in the 1950's.

This small lake was built for conservation of water for wildlife and livestock. Over the last 50 plus years it has become the home and seasonal layover spot for vast numbers of wildlife and waterfowl.

During the severe drought years and years with very long summers, it is a lifeline for critters and creatures alike.

This water conservation has never been of any cost to the taxpayer and has greatly enhanced the environmental aspects of the area. There are no pumps in the lake for irrigation is not feasible or practical due to the shallow soil and also the proximity of the lake. The water collection was never developed for commercial or domestic water use and in-fact water runs freely through the spillway except during the late summer and fall when flow in the drainage area is nonexistent anyway.

Very few private water reservoirs in this state are as unique as this one. It really falls into the category of a high mountain natural lake with the flows and use much as found on Forest Service or BLM lands throughout the West.

The 'taking' of water from the watershed is such a small fraction of 1% of the total annual flow that I would call it infinitesimal. Our family settled here under the Homestead Act in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. My ancestors came to be good stewards of the land and our generation strives hard to do the same. We still practice conservation and giving back to the land much like we do to the community we have lived in for the last 150 years.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Mann

