



# california water impact network

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

Carolee K. Krieger  
president

April 17, 2007

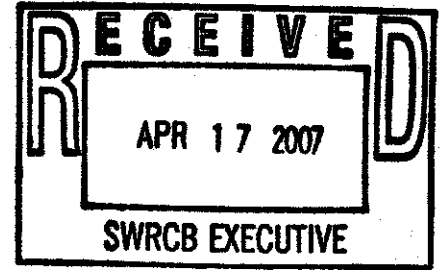
Dorothy Green  
secretary

Song Her, Clerk to the Board, Executive Office  
State Water Resources Control Board

Joan Hartmann  
treasurer

Via Fax: 916-341-5620.

Via Email: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)



Lloyd G. Carter  
director

**Re: Comment Letter –Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy**

Malinda Chouinard  
director

State Water Resources Control Board,

Yvon Chouinard  
director

The California Water Impact Network supports Alternative #4. According to SWCRB's own scoping presentation, 91% of California's historic wetland acreage has already been lost, along with up to 98% of the State's historic riparian areas. Pressures on wetlands and riparian areas are projected to increase with population growth and climate change. For example, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warns that wetlands will be among the ecosystems most impacted by climate change (<http://www.ipcc.ch/SPM13apr07.pdf>). California must take a stand to protect these precious resources from physical and chemical alteration. Wetlands and riparian areas not only provide important wildlife habitat, they are critical to water supply and quality. It is well established that wetlands and riparian areas help to maintain watershed conditions and instream flows, both of which are essential to ensuring a sustainable water future for California.

Jim Edmondson  
director

Michael Jackson  
director

Huey Johnson  
director

Linda Mitrovich  
director

Tom Stokely  
director

Alternative 4 should be identified as the Preferred Alternative because it will do the most to protect wetlands and streams. The other alternatives are insufficient.

Sincerely,

Carolee Krieger, President  
California Water Impact Network  
P.O. Box 878  
Shaver Lake, CA 93664