

From: "Main Use" <mainuse@msn.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Sat, Mar 31, 2007 1:16 PM
Subject: Proposed Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy

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

This proposal is another in a long string of bureaucratic actions designed to do nothing but further empower an inflexible and rather arrogant Water Board staff, enabled by a Board that is either disinterested or ignorant of what is being done. Of course the staff's proposed solution is the most onerous one as well as the one which maximizes the staff power to harass the citizens. To expect these bureaucrats to use common sense or good judgment in application of the Water Board rules is preposterous. Their record of inflexibility is well understood by anyone who encounters them, and their inability to use common sense stands as a tower of stupidity.

Under the existing Water Board rules, the definition of "wet soil" is any dirt that contains any entrained water. Thus under existing rules all of the following are illegal unless one has a certified geologist examine the activity:

- a.. digging a post hole for a fence post (and setting it with wet post-hole mix)
- b.. a child digging a hole in the sand on a beach
- c.. a homeowner digging a hole and backfilling with damp soil
- d.. a camper digging a hole
- e.. putting out a campfire with a bucket of water
- f.. planting and watering a new tree or plant
- g.. digging up ones lawn
- h.. pissing on the ground.

As stunning as these ludicrous prohibitions may sound, they are in fact true. I have unfortunately engaged in correspondence with the staff--and this is the result. Trust?? That is a laughable word when applied to the Water Board and its staff. Their attitude is legendary--stop everything.

Ross Smith
Danville, CA

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