



November 5, 2008

Sheri J. Emerson
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MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
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- County of Sonoma
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- Town of Windsor

DAVE RICHARDSON
Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 833-2553

Dear Ms. Emerson,

The Russian River Watershed Association would like to express our support for the Colgan Creek Restoration Project. The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is an association of local public agencies in the Russian River Watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water, fisheries restoration, and watershed enhancement. The City of Santa Rosa, one of our member agencies, included this project in the Citywide Creek Master Plan adopted by their City Council in 2007.

The *Colgan Creek Restoration Project* will:

- Restore more than a mile of Colgan Creek from a flood control channel to a healthier seasonal creek ecosystem that includes riffles, pools, and streamside vegetation
- Increase flood protection of this reach of Colgan Creek from the 25 year to the 100 year level
- Enhance water quality within the reach, contributing to improved conditions for the federally-protected steelhead trout within the Laguna de Santa Rosa downstream of the project area
- Promote public awareness and local stewardship through creation of a watershed stewardship coordinator position and development of a watershed science curriculum for local schools
- Create a new neighborhood park that provides green space and parkland in a park deficient area of Santa Rosa
- Connect to regional trail systems including the Colgan Creek Trail to the west and Taylor Mountain Regional Park to the east

The *Colgan Creek Restoration Project* meets two primary goals of the Russian River Watershed Association:

- Promote the development and implementation of cooperative restoration and protection efforts throughout the watershed.
- Educate communities about the importance of watershed stewardship.

We fully support the *Colgan Creek Restoration Project* and recommend the Urban Streams Program grant committee provide full funding for this project.

Sincerely,

Executive Director, Russian River Watershed Association