



May 20, 2010

Susan Gorin, Mayor  
City of Santa Rosa  
PO Box 1678  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

RE: Support for the City of Santa Rosa's Urban Water Recycling Project

Dear Mayor Gorin:

The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is a coalition 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. Our member agencies are the Cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg and Ukiah, the Town of Windsor, the County of Sonoma, and the Sonoma County Water Agency.

The purpose of this letter is to express RRWA's support for the City of Santa Rosa's Urban Water Recycling Project (Project) and recommend that Congress fund the Project through the Water Resources Development Act.

RRWA and its member agencies recognize the valuable role that recycled water provides as a component of our regional water supply. Recycled water is a sustainable, reliable source of supply that helps reduce demands on limited potable water supplies which helps increase water availability for improved stream flows. This enhanced stream flow improves riparian habitat and contributes to fisheries recovery.

The City's Project will reduce demand on potable water supplies in the Russian River watershed by providing one billion gallons of recycled water to offset potable use that would otherwise be diverted from the Russian River. The Project also provides a cost effective, environmentally sound, drought-proof water supply that reduces current reliance on groundwater and surface water supplies. The Project will also restore wetland and

**MEMBER AGENCIES**

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Rohnert Park
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Ukiah
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

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Executive Director

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riparian portions of the Laguna de Santa Rosa, which is an ecological centerpiece of Sonoma County.

On behalf of all the RRWA member agencies, I express support for this regionally beneficial project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jake Mackenzie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Jake Mackenzie  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Russian River Watershed Association