

Public Comments on Draft Southern Sonoma County Storm Water Resources Plan

Date Received	ID	Organization	Reference	Comment	Response
8/29/2018	1	Marketing Premier Country Estates		Email in support of project #55	Received
8/31/2018	2	Sonoma Valley Stakeholder		Being a long time resident living next to Sonoma Creek, I'm interested in being part of this forum.	Received. Sonoma Water welcomes on-going participation in the SWRP process and connects stakeholders to Sonoma Ecology Center's outreach and project planning activities focused on Sonoma Valley stormwater management.
9/6/2018	3	County Homeowner		I still don't see any indication that this group is involved in stopping the huge drain of our groundwater by all of the cannabis operations (legal and/or illegal) and more being approved daily. This is just plain immoral...to give away our precious groundwater in the name of a quick buck! and for water purpose!	Thank you for your comment. The issue you bring up is being addressed through the new groundwater management planning process underway. The Storm Water Resource Plan primarily focuses on management of stormwater through various appropriate methods to slow, spread, sink and store water through capture and treatment of dry weather runoff. Three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) were formed in 2017 covering three priority groundwater basins in Sonoma County with the intent to develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans for each basin by 2022. These plans will address groundwater use by all user types, including agricultural industry and cannabis operations. The GSA's and their associated advisory committees are aware of the industry, active in discussion, and seeking ways to address these issues in the Groundwater Sustainability Plans. For more info: http://sonomacountygroundwater.org/

9/10/2018	4	Sonoma County Horse Council		Letter of support for project #55	Received. Letter included as attachment
9/13/2018	5	City of Petaluma	Page 2-5, 2nd paragraph	Petaluma Valley GW basin proposed to be re-listed as High priority in 2018, but not yet finalized.	Revised sentence to include this information
9/13/2018	6	City of Petaluma	Page 2-5, 2nd paragraph	USGS study is a partnership of USGS, SCWA and City of Petaluma	Revised sentence to include this information
9/13/2018	7	City of Petaluma	Page 2-8, 1st paragraph	Update number of City of Petaluma customers and population with information from 2015 UWMP.	Population numbers are consistent with 2015 UWMP. Updated in text citation.
9/13/2018	8	City of Petaluma	Page 2-8, 1st paragraph	City of Petaluma also provides potable water service to Two Rock Coast Guard base.	Revised paragraph to include this information.
9/13/2018	9	City of Petaluma	Page 2-16, 2nd paragraph	missing word "...the Petaluma River watershed contains considerable undeveloped LAND and continues to provide..."	Edited sentence to include "land"
9/14/2018	10	SCAPOSD	Page 7-2	We're up to about 114,000 acres protected	Revised sentence to include this information
9/14/2018	11	SCAPOSD	Page 2-27	Ag + Open Space doesn't own Van Hoosear, but we do have an easement over it...	Revised sentence to include this information
9/14/2018	12	SCAPOSD		Thank you for the opportunity to review!	Received
9/14/2018	13	SRCD		At a general level, I think this is a very good document, and appreciate all the people and work that has gone into it. Where I originally thought its value would center around the list of projects and opportunity to fund, I am now seeing it as a valuable resource document. I will be referring to it when I have questions about different aspects of water quality and management in the future, and will be able to quickly access valuable information that I am looking for. The fact that it combines so many relevant aspects of water, rules and local and regional activities makes it especially useful. I look forward to the final version and think it is getting very close to being ready. Thank you for your efforts.	Received

9/15/2018	14	Sonoma Valley Stakeholder		<p>An Extremely comprehensive identification of storm water management possibilities. Way beyond my ability for any technical comment, however, as a resident in proximity to Nathanson Creek I can't help but notice Project #52. It has a high ranking but I wonder about the probability any cooperation on the part of the School District. It seems to me their current plans for construction on the open fields at the high school are working in the opposite direction.</p>	<p>Thank you for taking time to review and comment. In recent years, Sonoma Water and Sonoma Ecology Center have been coordinating with School District on various water management topics, including stormwater management and stewardship of Nathanson Creek. The high school campus has served as site for various monitoring activities and ongoing restoration and creek maintenance along this reach of Nathanson Creek. We are aware of the District's master plan development and do recognize the potential challenges of integrating the District's plans with certain stormwater management objectives. The proposed project is a concept for detaining stormwater in the area and may not ultimately be determined feasible or fit in with District's plans.</p>
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9/18/2018	15	Sonoma County Farm Bureau		<p>On behalf of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau, I would like to express our support of Proposal #55, Equine Water Stewardship. Our organization is no stranger to this type of project that brings several similar landowners together in a collaborative working relationship. For decades, we have been providing similar testing services for dairies required to submit waste management plans in both the Region 1 and Region 2 water districts.</p> <p>Complying with the requirements of the Storm Water Resource Plan will undoubtedly meet with confusion by our relatively small commercial and hobby horse facilities in southern Sonoma County. Having one firm work with these landowners to develop sound BMPs and testing programs will not only alleviate constituent frustration with the requirements, but it will be a more effective use of the Water Agency staffs' time. Rather than 24 people calling and asking the same question or needing guidance, there will be one representative working with the agency to ensure that horse ranches meet and understand the requirements of the plan.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment and should you need additional information, please contact me.</p>	Received
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September 10, 2018

Susan Haydon, Project Specialist
Sonoma County Water Agency
via email: susan.haydon@scwa.ca.gov

FUNDING FOR EQUINE MANURE MANAGEMENT & WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

Dear Ms. Haydon,

The Sonoma County Horse Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency representing the interests of the equine community. Specifically, our mission is to preserve and protect the health and well-being of horses and horse-related activities in Sonoma County. Based on an economic analysis we commissioned from SSU, *The Economic Impact of Equestrians Activities in Sonoma County 2014*, we know there are over 25,000 equines, mostly horses, in this County.

We frequently hear complaints from equine owners and ranch operators about the lack of options for disposal of manure and the struggle to understand and comply with land use regulations, including water run-off regulations. We know that, unlike cattle operations, most equine operations are quite small. The majority of equine facilities house under a dozen horses and smaller yet operations are ubiquitous throughout the county. These numerous “mom-and-pop” operators are largely unaware of evolving state regulations governing water run-off. And, if made aware, these small operators lack resources for the development and implementation of water run off plans to meet these expanding state regulations.

Thus, the Horse Council strongly supports assisting equine facility operators in understanding and following water quality regulations. For this reason, we support your efforts to fund programs and operations that provide education and operational resources to assist the equine community in complying with our responsibilities under the law. The Council is aware of the proposal from Michael Murphy that you’ve identified as number 55. We support that proposal in addition to any other proposals that likewise serve the needs of equine facility operators, again, in particular the “mom-and-pop” operations.

The Horse Council feels strongly about assisting our community in complying with these complicated regulatory issues and we stand ready to assist your Agency in any way we can to bring this to fruition. Please don’t hesitate to contact me for assistance.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth Palmer
President