

From: [Heather Swain](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); Bragman@marinwater.org; [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Terrie Gillen](#)
Date: Friday, April 2, 2021 12:06:23 PM

Hello MMWD Board Members.

Today I write you *another* letter pleading with you to do something about the rampant abuses I see on the Watershed property.

How many of these emails have I written? At least 6. And has one ever been acknowledged by a board member? No. (Larry has actually responded when I've written him a person email.) I've met with Jasmin in her office, had coffee with Sean, crashed Larry Bragman's law office, talked to Mike Sweazey, written to you, complained to the rangers...and the list goes on and nothing changes except the visitors keep growing and the abuse of the land keeps getting worse. My outreach is met with the vibe that there is just nothing anyone can do. What can you do? And when will you do it?

I am one of your free garbage collectors because you won't put garbage cans at all the trail heads. https://link.edgepilot.com/s/91ba3531/o5_gvxKx30qHzo56A1pBoQ?u=https://share.icloud.com/photos/0UMwvS-ipVsmVN6Ap4yXcZJBw

This morning I came up to hike Pumpkin Ridge and Pine Point at 6:50 am. I parked my car at the Pumpkin Ridge trailhead. When I was about 100 yards up the trail I turned around and there were 6 bike riders coming off the street up the Pumpkin Ridge trail and I shouted "this isn't a bike trail and you know it" and five of them stopped but one of them kept going a little further until his partners-in-crime shouted at him to come back. He stopped his bike and yelled expletives at me! I'm a 58 year-old woman confronting a group of 40-something-year-old men in the middle of the woods. How is this safe for me? And what are my choices at that moment? Do I just let them push me off the trail to ride by where they are not supposed to be biking? Or do I stand up for nature because there is no one else around to do it? I called the watershed emergency number and reported it but by the time anyone were to show up, the bikers rode up the other side of Pumpkin Ridge to get to the Madrone Trail. And away they go to freely ride where they are not supposed to be. Their choice to actively break the MMWD rules is a public safety issue.

I wonder why you have rules if you don't bother enforcing them? I am curious if any of you actually walk the trails and see what's going on? Hopefully you will take the time to look at my link above. Both Pumpkin Ridge Trail and Pine Point are looking trashed because of repeated use of bicycles. The wood stairs on Pumpkin Ridge facing Lagunitas are breaking from bicycles running over them. Azalea Ridge is looking exceedingly damaged from bikes too. I literally had to jump off the trail after being yelled at by a man riding on the Shady Side trail. They ride knowing full well that they will never get caught because there are no rangers; ever. You have hog-tied the ranger staff. How can you possibly expect two guys to manage over 22,000 acres of land at any given time?!?! Don Wick can't hire 6 more rangers until YOU make it happen. **Your plans to hire 1 more ranger isn't enough.** They need to start just before sunrise and go home well after dark in order to prevent the sea of entitled bike riders running amok on the trails. Why is this of no concern to you? Isn't it ironic that you built a bike trail on Azalea for the people who are literally abusing your rules?

What will it take for you to grasp the severity of the issues on the property you have been

elected to manage? So far you are unmotivated by endless garbage, injury to wildlife, damage to trails, speeding, off-leash pets, and lake swimming. Your poor rangers are doing what they can without the real tools they need to make a difference. That they still show up to do the best they can under the circumstances is a blessing you don't seem to appreciate or there would be more of them.

I'm really hoping that you consider what I'm saying to you.
You have some problems and they need to be addressed sooner than later because your visitor-ship keeps increasing while your "peace officer" staff stays the same.

Heather Swain
615-405-4452

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APR 02 2021

MMWD

To: Directors; Marin Municipal Water District.
From: Robert Twiss / Amy Skewes-Cox, 45 Laurel Grove Ave. Ross
twiss@rtasc.com (415) 203-4860
Subject: Letter for April 6 Board Meeting Packet: Draught restrictions

Dear Board Members,

We understand the need to prepare for this coming dry summer. For some years we have had no lawns and have been practicing water conservation in irrigation. This letter is point out that we are in the midst of re-construction to correct leaks cracks in our old pool and do not want to be left with it empty! Resurfacing the pool is a lengthy process. We started this process about a year ago, but it may not be ready to re-fill until sometime in May.

This is to urge that if the Board considers fill restrictions on swimming pools, you protect those like us who are in the midst of permitted re-constriction. We would hope that new rules would apply to those who have not yet begun construction or repair and who do not yet have permits and contracts. Our rationale for this request includes the following concerns.

- An empty pool is a safety hazard.
- Construction contracts would have to be honored, or forfeit.
- Obtaining trucked water is problematic and may be impossible, as no firms we have contacted are now serving Marin County.

Thus, an immediate denial of service in this situation would present a hardship for us.

We appreciate your service to the community, and your consideration of this request. Please contact us if we can answer any questions you might have, or if a site inspection would be helpful.

Respectfully,



Robert Twiss and
Amy O. Skewes-Cox

From: [Dave Kramer](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Cc: [Paul Sellier](#)
Subject: Support for Lagunitas Creek Stream Release Study
Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:38:22 PM

MMWD Board,

I want to express my support for tonight's agenda item to expand the scope of the Lagunitas Creek Stream Release Study.

Since I reported a big "leak" on March 19, Paul Sellier has been kind enough to educate me about environmental release regulations. I think the public is aware we support the creek but may not be aware of the magnitude and the lack of flexibility in an extreme drought. As things are starting to look more like 1977, I am pleased to see the Board is addressing this early.

I doubt you intend to cover many details tonight, but I will tune in at 7:30PM just in case.

Here are my thoughts about why the average MMWD customer will want to keep informed of your plans and progress:

- It is a meaningful amount of water.
- Changes probably need a long lead time. Even the Temporary Urgency Change Petition process looks pretty daunting!
- Customers may appreciate MMWD challenging whether fish should get more water than people during extreme drought.
- Today, environmental releases can be cut by only 20% in dry years. In 1978, MMWD customers had to cut use by 60%.
- The fish would probably prefer reduced flows to no flow. None of us want Kent Lake to dry up like it did in 1978.

Thank you.
See you tonight!
Best regards,
Dave