



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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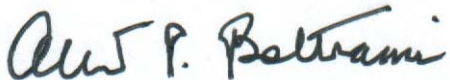
Ukiah, California... *September 11, 2007*

MENDOCINO COUNTY BEGINS PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE PILOT PROGRAMS

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors heard a general report on the Precautionary Principle Policy at the Board's regular meeting on September 11, 2007. One year after passing the "Mendocino County Precautionary Principle Policy," two County departments are prepared to incorporate the Principle into decision-making: the Water Agency will be applying the Precautionary Principle to its state-mandated Stormwater Management Program; and Environmental Health has chosen a pilot project sure to generate some community input. They will open the County's Vector Control Program to Precautionary Principle decision-making. According to John Morley, "How the County controls mosquitoes, especially in light of West Nile Virus, should be of great interest to residents seeking the most effective and least environmentally harmful method."

The County has been working in conjunction with the Mendocino Partnership for the Precautionary Principle to launch the pilot program. The Water Agency's Director Roland Sanford stated, "Over the past year, we have worked diligently to develop a procedure for applying the Precautionary Principle and identify interesting and suitable pilot projects." The pilot projects provide an opportunity to fine-tune the implementation of Precautionary decision-making. Partnership member Britt Bailey added, "We have not only developed a procedure for applying the Precautionary Principle, but also we have created Public Participation Guidelines so that it is very clear how residents can be involved in decision-making, a key element of the Principle." When the pilot projects are complete a full progress report will be provided to the Board of Supervisors.

Complete information on how to be involved in the pilot decision-making process, see www.mendoprecaution.org.

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