

Laguna

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Dam.

Under the act, 30 percent of the cost would be picked up by local entities, such as the Sonoma County Water Agency.

"The director of the Sonoma County Water Agency has indicated a willingness of the Agency to contribute their share to a laguna project," Riggs wrote to the corps.

Under the corps' plan, the laguna land would be purchased only from willing sellers. Jerome said potential parcels have not been identified, but they would be next to wastewater irrigation land, or wildlife sanctuaries.

The land would be contoured for ponds, and trees and shrubs would be planted, Kindel said.

He said the development cost would be \$25,000 an acre, not including the purchase price.

Sebastopol City Councilwoman Lynn Hamilton, a staunch environmentalist, said the Army Corps of

Engineers owes it to the people of Sonoma County to make up for the damage that was done as a result of the construction of Warm Springs Dam.

But the Corps' plans for the laguna, she said, amount to empty promises at this point.

"What we're looking for is the action, the real teeth. We've had a lot words," she said.

Hamilton said the Corps' plan would complement's Sebastopol efforts to bring back the laguna to a more natural state.

Sebastopol just bought 10 acres of former Northwestern Pacific Railroad property at the mouth of Calder Creek to incorporate into the city's Laguna Park.

Sebastopol officials also are working with the Barlow Co., the city's last active apple canner, to filter the 24 million gallons of wastewater from its operation that it sprays annually into the laguna.