Dear California Congressional Delegation:

Please find the attached letter from a statewide, comprehensive group of agricultural organizations and individual farmers. The list includes the California Farm Bureau, which has 53 local chapters throughout the state, the Western Growers, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), the California Cotton Growers Association, the California Cotton Ginners Association and the Western Agricultural Processors Association.

The letter acknowledges the critical conditions that exist in California and the need for Congressional and Executive action to solve the water supply crisis. With the future of the nation's agricultural production at risk, farmers, farmworkers, and supporting businesses throughout the state are calling on the California Delegation to work cooperatively to preserve a vital element of the California economy and the source of jobs for many California families.

The time for decision-makers to act is now.



August 4, 2016

Dear California Congressional Delegation:

After more than 10 years of declining surface water deliveries, hundreds of state and federal hearings, and Presidential, Congressional, and Cabinet Secretary visits to the Central Valley, we still have not seen a long-term solution enacted that secures a future water supply and continued farming in the Central Valley. We appreciate the work from our representatives in the House and the Senate and understand how difficult it is in the current environment to have a collaborative, bipartisan, and bicameral discussion of substance on emotional issues such as water. Having said that, there has been a lot of talk, but frankly, not much water to show for it.

What we have seen is a water bureaucracy out of control and making a bad situation worse every day. More than 15 federal, state and regional bureaucracies have almost unchecked power to make decisions about how to use California's precious water supply. Many of these decisions are not based on science and some even conflict with each other.

The most outrageous example is continuing to flush fresh water out to sea, even though after decades of this practice, we know it is doing absolutely nothing to solve the problem it's intended to fix, saving declining fish populations. And now, taking this injustice to an even higher level, the Bureau of Reclamation is proposing using emergency drought fund dollars to purchase water previously available to urban and agricultural users, all to send more water out to sea.

The result? Everyone loses. Fish populations continue to decline while the lack of water hurts urban water users, farms, businesses, communities, state and local tax revenue and more. We all need a healthy environment in order to thrive and farmers' very survival depends on it. But taking the same action over and over again and expecting a different result is the very definition of insanity.

Every Californian should be concerned about current water policy and management. This is a colossal failure, exposing government's inability to protect state food and water resources despite overwhelming agreement that the state faces a clear and present danger. Real leadership is needed. This is no longer a discussion about water flows, operation of water facilities, and biological opinions. It is about the very existence of agriculture south of the Delta.

If our elected officials do not act, they will be responsible for major changes forced upon the state that will require the sacrifice of many Californians, not just those who work in agriculture. While other states and nations struggle to maintain their food production in the face of drought and other factors, California lawmakers are standing by, watching the destruction of a vital part of the world's food supply.

We urge you to consider the human implications of the current policies:

- This year alone more than 1 million acre-feet of water has been flushed out to sea, with another 550,000 acre feet being proposed for similar actions by State and federal agencies. That's enough water to supply the domestic needs of 9.4 million people or grow over 26 billion salads.
- More than 2.5 million California jobs rely on farm production in 56 of California's 58 counties.
- Farm industry employers and employees pay hundreds of millions in state and local tax revenue every year.
- Entire communities are in decline, as jobs associated with farming are leaving the Central Valley and there are no replacement jobs being created.
- Jobs at California ports and in the freight industry will be eliminated as export agricultural products decline.
- Reduction in water deliveries and reliance on groundwater has created land subsidence in the Central Valley which will have a substantial impact on communities and state infrastructure, creating the need for costly and expensive repairs. Schools and health departments are beginning to worry about the quality and availability of drinking water.
- Social services in agriculture communities are strained, and with more land taken out of production, demand for social services will increase as unemployment and bankruptcies increase.
- Californians will lose considerable production of fresh vegetables, fruit, nuts, and organic products and will be forced to rely on products grown in other states and countries.

Inexplicably, there is a willingness of policymakers to accept an appearance of status quo that is not working for anyone, while the reality is that water supply reliability is continuously degraded. We have real, substantial, and immediate problems that require legislative solutions.

On behalf of the undersigned, we call upon you to consider the interests of all Californians and resolve our state's water supply issues. The good news is that a solution is working its way through Congress as we speak. We have no more time to waste and respectfully demand that government act now by passing legislation that will secure a more reliable water future for all California water users – urban, farm, and environmental.

Sincerely,

California Legislature

July 28, 2016

Dear California Congressional Delegation:

After more than 10 years of declining surface water deliveries, hundreds of state and federal hearings, and Presidential, Congressional, and Cabinet Secretary visits to the Central Valley, we still have not seen a long-term solution enacted that secures a future water supply and continued farming in the Central Valley. We appreciate the work from our representatives in the House and the Senate and understand how difficult it is in the current environment to have a collaborative, bipartisan, and bicameral discussion of substance on emotional issues such as water. Having said that, there has been a lot of talk, but frankly, not much water to show for it.

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Sincerely,

Assemblymenber Adam C. Gray

21st Assembly District

Senator Anthony Cannella

12th Senate District

Assemblymember Kristin Olsen 12th Assembly District

Assemblymember Jim Cooper 9th Assembly District

Assemblymember Frank Bigelow 5th Assembly District

Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula 31st Assembly District

Senator Tom Berryhill 8th Senate District

Assemblymember Devon Mathis 26th Assembly District

Assembly member Jim Patterson 23rd Assembly District

Assemblymember Shannon Grove 34th Assembly District



Jeff Siemens

V. P. of Operations - Nickel Family LLC Rio Bravo Ranch - Bakersfield, CA Olcese Water District San Juan Ranching - Dos Palos, CA San Luis Canal Company Central California Irrigation District

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Executive Director Family Farm Alliance

> Jon Reiter CEO/

Maricopa Orchards

Sarah Woolf

Water Wise, President Westlands Water District

Fresno, CA

Kent H. Stephens

Sec/CFO

Sunview Vineyards of California, Inc.

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Board Member, Westlands Water District

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Owner, Phillips Farms

Director, Ivanhoe I.D.

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Aaron Barcellos

Partner, A-Bar Ag Enterprises President, Pacheco Water District Board CCID, FCWD, SLWD, Panoche and Pacheco Water Districts

Tom Darceller

Tom Barcellos

T-Bar Dairy/Barcellos Farms
Director – Lower Tule River Irr. Dist.

Angorathit

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Firebaugh Canal Water District

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President, Panoche Water District
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Grant Craven
Grant Craven

Arroyo Farms
San Luis Water Distric
Firebaugh, CA

Steve Malanca

My Job Depends on Ag

Ernst Schroeder Jr.

620.A

CEO/Owner, Jess Smith & Sons Cotton, LLC

Owner, Bakersfield Cotton Warehouse

Owner/Partner, JSS Almonds

Owner, EDS Ranch

Semi-Tropic, Kern County, Bakersfield Municipal

Water District Bakersfield, CA

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ean Catho

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Salesman, Thomason Tractor

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Jan Bain

James O'Banion President/Chairman

Central California Irrigation District

San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors

Water Authority Los Banos, CA

8 W 84

Kimberly Brown

Sr. Director, Water Resources

Wonderful Orchards

AL J Sith

Alec Smith

Co-Owner, Turlock Fruit Company

Panoche, Pacheco, Firebaugh Canal District

Turlock, CA Firebaugh, CA

Berj Moosekian

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General Manager, V.H. Azhderian & Co.

Three Star Farms, Inc. San Luis Water District

San Luis Canal

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Sales Manager, Thomason Tractor Co.

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Suzanne Redfern-West Redfern Ranches Dos Palos, CA

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Irrigation District

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Chris White General Manager, Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

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Wendy Vander Dussen Landowner CCID, MID

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Maurice P. Etcheverry
Owner/Farmer
Maurice & Carol Etcheverry Farms
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Chase Hurley

General Manager, San Luis Canal Company Los Banos, CA

Kalent Brandi

Manager, Brandi Honey and Farming LLC CCID

Los Banos, CA

Sincerely,

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Ame Brandi

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Milad T- Wools

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Aldo J. Sansoni

Partner

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Landowner Dos Palos, CA

Erik C. Roget

Sincerely,

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President & CEO, Yurosek Consulting, Inc. Bakersfield, CA

Jim Brown

President, Action Glass Inc.

Cal Water

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Chattel Appraiser

Yosemite Farm Credit/Western Ag

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Partner, Basila Farms

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Farm Manager, Live Oak Farms

Merced Irrigation District

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Rock Zierman CEO, California Independent Petroleum Association Sacramento, CA

Maury McKnight

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Owner/Operator, McKnight Spraying

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Central California Irrigation District

Gustine, CA

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Central California Irrigation District

Vicki McKnight

Certified Professional Accountant, Boss

Deller and Company

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Veli Mcknip

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Manuel Pereira

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Anthony Pereira

Partner, Pereira Bros. & Sons

anthony Perera

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Michael Pereira

Partner, Pereira Bros. & Sons

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B.E. Little Company

Ju Macing

Jon E. Maring Principal, Del Mar Farms Patterson, CA

Stacia H. Olivera CFO, Hammonds Ranch, Inc. Panoche Water District Firebaugh, CA

Igal Treibatch Managing Member: Pegasus Orchards, LLC, Greenleaf Orchards LTD, Silverdust Orchards LLC Madera County

Matt Vongehr Clovis, CA

Matt Vonjel

Stuart Woolf
President & CEO, Woolf Farming &
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Westland Water District
Huron, CA

Sfm 27. Worf!

Stacey Carlson
Stacey Carlson
Self Employed, Farmer Agribusiness
Little Hills Ranch
Turlock Irrigation District
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Delay Demand

Robert Runyan Sr. Vice President, Branch Manger, Sr. Investment Management Specialist The Elrod & Runyan Group at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, LLC Modesto, CA

Jerone P. Zalinski
Zalinski Ranches
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Dr. Charles Burt Irrigation Specialist San Luis Obispo, CA

Marke M. Rint

Frank C. Stambach
Ret. Engineer, Stoddard & Associates
CCID
Los Banos, CA

James M. Hammonds
President, Hammonds Ranch, Inc.

Panoche Water District

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Lisa Sansoni-Gallichio

Owner/Partner, The Pentago Co/dba Delta

Low Janeni Gallinio

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San Luis Canal Company

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Dennis Borrelli Land Owner Central California Water District Gustine, CA

Yana Boulli

Karen Borrelli Land Owner Central California Water District Gustine, CA

Herbert D. Dompe

President, Dompe Supply Del Puerto Water District Crows Landing, CA

Susan Stewart Dompl

Susan Stewart Dompe **Managing Partner** Stewart Ranches Partnership, Anderson Road Ranches Partnership Central CAlifonria Irrigation District Crows Landing, CA

Sincerely.

eve Nausone Steve Fausone

CFO, Redfern Ranches Inc.

Panoche WD, Westlands WD, San Luis WD, CCID, Firebaugh Canal WD, Laguna WD

Dos Palos, CA

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Owner, David E. Carlucci Diversified

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Swet M. Silver

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Christeen abbott

Christeen Abbott **Consolidated Irrigation District** Kingsburg, CA

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Dennis Brazil

Mayor, City of Gustine

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Jane Erment Stewart

Owner, Aranelly Ford Family Farm

ul OStewart

Paul Stewart

Director, Aranelly Ford Water District

Sharon Lindemann

Vice President, THL Ag, LLC

Central California Irrigation District

Gustine, CA

fung tall

Hydro Technician II Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Sincerely,

Superintendent, Water Operations Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Tylan Source

Dylan Soares Summer Assistance

Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Accounts Receivable

Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Engineer

Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Assessor

Central California Irrigation District Los Banos, CA

Maria Fatima Segueera

Sincerely,

Safety Officer

Central California Irrigation District

en Moronio

Los Banos, CA

Engineer Tech

Central California Irrigation District

Los Banos, CA

Janet Ogan

Accounts Payable

Central California Irrigation District

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Maria Meza Water Billing

Central California Irrigation District

Los Banos, CA

Grower

Central California Irrigation District

and walla

Los Banos, CA

Central California Irrigation District

San Wallau

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Neves Farming

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Maurine Parker

Maurice Parker Owner, Parker Farms Firebaugh Canal District Firebaugh, CA

Sincerely,

Ronald Parker Owner, Parker Farms Firebaugh Canal District Firebaugh, CA

Jason Peltier

Executive Director, San Luis & Delta-

Mendota Water Authority

Los Banos, CA

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Joe Carlucci Farms

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for Arlua

Greg Pearl

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Anthony Carlucci

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Alonzo Weathers San Luis Canal Company Dos Palos, CA

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Stephen M Elanco Cal Water District Bakersfield, CA

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Erik Mendonca Helena Chemical Company Hanford, CA

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acher An Michel

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President, Load Maxx Trailer Company, Inc.
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Greg Wegis
Greg Wegis

Partner, Wegis & Young
Grower
Semitropic Water Storage District, Wheeler
Ridge Water District, Arvin Edison Water
District, Brenda Mesa Water District, Buena
Vista Water District

Vicki L. Miguel Landowner

Bakersfield, CA

Westlands Water District Coalinga, CA 93245 Sincerely,

Rod L. Radtke Land Owner Harris Farms Inc. Westlands Water District Piedra, CA

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Glen Knowles

Pamela Knowles Owner Westlands Water District Palmdale, CA

Robert Teicheira And Robert Teicheira Family Farm Owner San Luis Water District, CCID, Pacheco Water District Los Banos, CA

Michelle Etcheverry Cozzo Etcheverry Sister's San Luis Water District OH)

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Todd Craven Owner, Craven Farming Co San Luis Water District

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Donna Bridgford

Bookeeper, Empresas Del Bosque, Inc.

John L. Worse

John Woolf Owner/Operator, Shield Ave Ranch San Luis Water District Fresno Irrigation District Fresno, CA

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President, Hostetler Ranches, LLC

Rhett Salha

CFO, Hostetler Ranches, LLC

Executive Director

Association of California Water Agencies

Joe Diedrich Ranch

Joe Diedrich

Joe Diedrich Ranch

Joe Diedrich Ranch

Joe Diedrich Ranch

Donn Compion **Donn Campion**

Land Owner Merced County

JOSE MARIN

Jose Marin

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Owner, Sloan Enterprises

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Nevil Giffen

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Michelle McBride Regional Territory Manager San Luis Canal Company Los Banos, CA

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Coalinga, CA

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Cheryl Siemantel
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Santa Nella, CA 95322

Signature

Adam Brown

Partner, A&A Ag Services

OCID, Alta Irrigation District

Orosi, CA

Orange Cove, CA

Al Bates

President, Sun Pacific

Multiple Irrigation Districts

Exeter, CA

Matt Leider

Vice President, Laux Lend

Multiple Irrigation Districts

Porterville, CA

Brian Neufeld

Partner, Chess Capital

Multiple Irrigation Districts

Exeter, CA

Curt Holmes

Partner, Holmes Ag

Multiple Irrigation Districts

Fresno, CA

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Partner, Academy Ranches LLC

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Partner, Carranza Farming Bros.

Terra Bella Irrigation District

Terra Bella, CA

Maribel Nenna

Partner, R&N Citrus

Terra Bella Irrigation District, LSID

Terra Bella, CA

Strathmore, CA

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Executive Director

California Agricultural Labor Association

Robert Teagarden

Ranch Manager, Nickel Family LLC

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David Tomlinson

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Exeter Irrigation District

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