



Attn: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
Executive Office
State Water Resources Control Board
Cal/EPA Headquarters
1001 "I" Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Townsend,

I quote a news release as follows;

"The State Water Resources Control Board quietly decided on New Year's Eve to increase water exports for fish in the San Joaquin Bay-Delta. It recommended increasing water flow by 35 percent along the Merced, Tuolumne, and Stanislaus rivers from February 1 to June 30 each year – the worst time possible."

"Since the increased flows would occur in the spring, it would mean less water in our reservoirs each summer when we need it most. If the Board's decision is enforced, it would fallow approximately 210,000 acres of farmland in San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced counties in dry years."

"Even the Board admits that its proposal would create an "unavoidable and significant" impact. Besides turning even more agricultural fields into dust bowls, it would put hundreds, if not thousands, of people out of work and significantly raise water rates. The human impact would be tremendous and far too much for our already struggling region to bear."

This is unacceptable and poorly thought out. The State Water Resources Control Board has a responsibility to the PEOPLE of California. To impact the water rates (allowing them to increase) within the State during this economic climate show a dramatic lack of vision or leadership. The responsibility of the State Water Resources Control Board is to ensure that The People of this State have the water required to produce crops, jobs, and compete in the market place. And, most important, Quality drinking water at a reasonable cost.. I wish to go on the record and oppose the implementation of this "plan". I am sure the fish won't know the difference. Our Farmers and Families will.

Frank B Gilb
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