

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
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Hello,

I'm a commercial fisherman and concerned about the diversions allocating more water than the salmon population can afford. Statewide river flows have been assigned to various water rights without prioritizing species survival. Commercial agricultural and private enterprise do not outweigh the importance of keeping adequate flows in the San Joaquin River for salmon population recovery.

Department of Fish and Wildlife have recommended more water be kept in the river than what is being allocated to other uses. This is a resource management issue that must consider the impact on commercial and endangered fisheries. Recently the commercial salmon fishery was closed for several years to give the salmon population a chance to recover. The recovery is in progress with reports of fish in the river. More fish that have been counted than in previous years. It is critical at this point in time flows are sustained to complete the breeding cycle and help the salmon population recover. In the future water allocations must consider the health of the commercial fisheries, let alone the federally protected endangered species, the steelhead.

Best Regards,

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