



March 28, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

As farmers who make a living utilizing and not wasting water on our crops, it is concerning to us that there is an attempt to increase the flows in the Tuolumne River to supposedly "help restore the salmon". The studies that we have read do not support the facts that an increase in river flows would in fact have any impact on the salmon at all. In fact, the Modesto and Turlock Irrigation Districts have been keeping the flows up and therefore the temperatures in the river down to help the salmon for many years. Farmers have been doing more with less for many years, and this gives the impression that there is "more" water available. The fact is that there is a finite amount of water available, and it is getting spread thinner and thinner, as more and more users are coming to the table. As the population has grown, people are demanding more water than ever. Even with conservation efforts, use in the Central Valley has risen. As farmland is converted to houses, the water that was once used for crops is now used for families.

We strongly urge you to reconsider any mandated increase in the Tuolumne River flows.

Thank You

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