

From: John Stokman
To: [commentletters](#)
Subject: River Flows
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 3:43:38 PM



Dear Board Chair Felicia Marcus and the WRCB

Please don't TAKE our water. I farm in the Modesto Irrigation District. The landowners before me invested heavily in money, time and labor during challenging times to provide us with the water infrastructure we have today. Their foresight to save water during time of drought is remarkable. Now, the WRCB are proposing to let that storage be depleted.

We are here. Our towns have grown. Jobs have been created. Land has been developed. We cannot go backwards as the WRCB is proposing. Our water districts have spent millions studying this fish issue. Please work with them to be good stewards of our precious resource.

It has been reported that the SED would benefit 1,103 fish at an economic cost of \$58,000.00 per fish. Unbelievable but those are the SED numbers. Also it's been reported that surface water depletion can be supplemented by pumping ground water. With water table issues and the salt that would be pumped, that is totally unsustainable.

Being a first generation farmer without the financial help from others. Our sacrifices to make it happen are unimaginable. Through hard work and every dollar going back into the farm for at least the first 20 years. I cannot imagine the thought of our livelihood going down the drain (river).

Again, Work with the irrigation district to help the fish and keep our economy strong. We can do both.

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