

**From:** Christina Stokman  
**To:** [commentletters](#)  
**Subject:** Modesto Water Meeting  
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I was at the meeting today and wanted to speak but had to leave before my name was called. Below are my comments:

My name is Christina Postma. I am a working mom of one, and soon-to-be two, God-willing, future farmers. I am married to a third generation California farmer and I come from a family of California farmers and dairymen.

My question to you is, are you willing to take a 40% pay cut? Are you willing to deplete your savings to survive? How long would your savings last you if you had to supplement 40% of your pay with it?

What you are asking, wait let me rephrase, what you are telling us, is that is what we are supposed to do is sit back and watch you do that to our livelihood.

Entertain me for a second.

Our district water is our crops paycheck and our aquifer is our savings. If you cut that pay by 40%, everyone's pay by 40%, everyone is going to have to pull from our savings. How long will our savings, and aquifer last? How will that devastate our valley? And how long will that take to devastate our land and economy permanently?

Not two years ago the government was trying to regulate how much we could pull from that savings and now you are about to give us no other option.

Every farmer that I know is a steward to the land. Takes more

pride in giving back to the soil and land, while providing you food to eat with your family at dinner tonight. As the population has grown in California and the United States, our farmers and this valley have adjusted to provide water and food for everyone. How can one decision by you, a non-elected board, tear down all that these people in here have worked for, for generations? Do you even realize the impact that this decision will ultimately have for you and your food and your family? And for WHAT? 1100 fish?

People matter more than fish.

Period.

Sent from my iPhone