



July 27, 2016

Re: California WaterFix Policy Statement

Dear State Water Resources Control Board,

I'm Charley Wilson, Executive Director of the Southern California Water Committee, representing 200 member organizations throughout Southern California who support for the California WaterFix.

More than 30% of Southern California's clean water supply flows from the Sierra Nevada mountains through the Delta - and that water is vital to our efforts to improve our local supplies. We need this high quality water from Sierra snowpack to replenish groundwater basins and fill up reservoirs. To pursue local water recycling, we need high quality freshwater to blend it with, which requires a reliable conveyance system to move water where it's needed.

WaterFix is an upgrade to the state's aging water infrastructure so we can move water more efficiently while protecting fish and wildlife.

WaterFix will improve the health of threatened and endangered fish in the Delta by reducing reverse water flows created by our outdated system.

WaterFix is about reliability – without it, we'll be faced with even deeper water supply cuts. It will let us capture and store more water during large storms – if WaterFix had been in place earlier this year, we would have captured enough water to supply nearly 3 million people with water for an entire year.

This plan has endured nearly a decade of expert review, planning and scientific and environmental analysis by leading experts and is the most viable plan to ensure clean, reliable water supplies while protecting the Delta ecosystem.

The public understands the need to secure precious high quality water supplies. We urge you to approve this water rights permit to move the CA WaterFix from planning to construction. We cannot afford to wait.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our ongoing support for CA WaterFix.

Sincerely,

Charley Wilson
Executive Director & CEO
Southern California Water Committee