
From: Caroline P Hall [<mailto:carolinehall13@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 3:01 PM

To: WateBoardsPublicAffairs, OPA@Waterboards

Subject: Please Sign the Water Release Petition

Dear Mr. Howard,

I urge you to approve the Petition by the South San Joaquin and Oakdale Irrigation Districts for a change in planned releases from New Melones between now and September. Not only is this in the best interests of the Sierra Foothill Communities but also for the agriculture and the local economies. If you do not approve this petition, then Lake Tulloch would be drained and New Melones will be brought down to an insignificant level leaving no water in reserve should this severe drought continue.

Not only does the draining of Lake Tulloch destroy and seriously damage the eco system and its' habitat that has been carefully protected for nearly 60 years, you will place in jeopardy the water provided by the Calaveras Water District to Calaveras County residents. This will effectively dry up the wells for residents on the Tuolumne County side of the lake.

If you do not approve this petition, your negative vote will destroy our economy and significantly lower our property values. This will impact the much needed tax revenues for counties that are already significantly hurting by the down turn in the economy in the Valley and Foothills which have been in play for the past five to six years.

I know we are in a drought and understand when nature simply curtails our water supply. However, this is all about sending water downstream for a variety of well-intentioned environmental policies with the focus on fish. Under this difficult situation, I believe people need to come first before fish. And research is showing that the water release is not really helping the fish but hurting the community and the economy.

Please grant this petition.

Caroline Hall
408-656-9942