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To: Felicia Marcus <feliciaamarcus@aol.com>

Subject: California's Drought: Who Actually Gets Water - Part 2



COUNTDOWN TO EXTINCTION?

California Water Board's Relaxation of Spring Flow Standards Threatens Native Species



Who actually gets water in California agriculture – and what do they do with it?

As the state's extreme drought continues; as urban users cut back; as wells in disadvantaged communities dry up; as our native Bay-Delta fish species edge closer to extinction – irrigators with senior water rights and investors drilling deep wells are reaping record profits and planting new permanent crops each year. In fact, some irrigators are receiving 75% of full supply in this fourth drought year while other users get only a small fraction of supply and while even the minimal flow requirements for fish, wildlife and water quality in the Bay-Delta are being suspended. Is it right to put one or more species at risk of extinction in order to protect risky investments in the conversion of hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland to almonds and other thirsty crops that aren't appropriate for California?

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The Bay Institute uses science, advocacy, and education to restore San Francisco Bay's many incredible ecosystems for the benefit of its wildlife and its enjoyment by future generations.

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