



Alléne Hébert
69 Lincoln Park
San Anselmo, CA 94960

March 16, 2017

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-0100

Dear Esteemed Board Members,

As a native of the San Francisco Bay Area, I write today urging you to set the San Joaquin tributaries flows at 60% unimpaired to ensure that the Delta ecosystem - and all the life forms it contains - survive. When water is taken away, all life systems are affected. Water is seamlessly interconnected to life in the Bay Area and across the planet.

Numerous studies have shown that 60% unimpaired flow is needed to restore the health of our rivers and waters. Anything less puts at risk all ecosystems and the health of millions of people who depend on clean water; killing fish, ecosystems, creating toxic algae blooms, affecting wildlife and species that have been around for millennia. There is enormous value in taking care of the water and all the life that surrounds it. This is a concept that our native brothers and sisters profoundly understood but something that large cooperations with short term agricultural business models don't seem to understand.

Water is a public trust resource and thus belongs to the people of California. People and all other living beings are dependent on water to live. We must respect the value of water, salmon and all cycles of life. We also must have water for crops, but there are ways in which that can happen not through pumping in more water out of our rivers - but rather focusing on solutions such as pressurized irrigation systems, water capture, storage, recycling and more.

There are two quotes from United Nations Declaration of Water Rights from March 22, 1992 that I would like to share with you, “1st - Water is the lifeblood of our planet. It is essential for life of the whole plant, animal or human, ” and, “5th - The water isn't only heritage of our predecessors, she is primarily a loan to our successors. Your protection is a vital necessity, as well as the moral obligation of man to the present and future generations.”

The Water Board should listen to the native people, fisheries, scientists and biologists and set the bar higher. I urge you to set the instream flows at 60% to ensure the salmon and all other species in the Delta ecosystem survive. I ask you to make your decision based on future generations and the care of our precious resources; please focus on honoring all forms of life without sacrificing our delicate ecosystems and water supplies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alléne Hébert', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alléne Hébert