

**From:** Corey Raffel  
**To:** [commentletters](#)  
**Subject:** River flows, Central Valley  
**Date:** Sunday, December 18, 2016 1:12:09 PM



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**To:** *Jeanine Townsend*  
*State Water Resources Control Board*  
*1001 I Street, 24th Floor*  
*Sacramento, CA 95814*

*Dear Ms Townsend,*

*As the State Water Resources Control Board makes a decision regarding cold water flows to the San Joaquin River watershed, can we please pay attention to what scientific research says about the flows needed to all for recovery of salmon and steelhead runs. Specifically, flows of at least 60% are needed to allow for recovery of these runs and to allow the populations of fish to become self-sustaining.*

*I recognize the conflict between the water needs of farmers and the needs of fish. For far too long, the state has provided large amounts of water to the farming community without adequate consideration of the needs of salmon and steelhead. These fisheries have the potential to provide significant income to the region. In addition, cold, clean water benefits everyone.*

*Clearly, the farm interests must demonstrate that they are ready to use proven methods of water conservation to greatly decrease their water needs while still providing adequate water for crops. These conservations measures should be required of anyone receiving water from the state.*

*The time is past to continue the status quo. Salmon and steelhead are disappearing. The time has come to abandon the failed policies of the past and to recognize that the solution to the problem is easy, provide more water to the fish.*

*Sincerely,*  
*Corey Raffel*