

From: Gerald DeYoung
To: commentletter@waterboards.ca.gov
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I live next to the Stanislaus River in rural Oakdale. In the past years I have irrigated pasture for my cattle operation. I believe it is very important for the ground water situation that certain steps be taken to assure drinking water to those residences that rely on wells.

Leave as much water behind the dams which will force water into the aquifers and stabilize well levels.

Use as much surface water as possible on farmland to deter the use of wells for irrigation. These wells often pump out 2,000 gallons per minute. That is a lot of water that could be used by households.

Put a moratorium on drilling new wells in dry land areas.

As for the salmon:

There were more salmon spawning in the Stanislaus River this year than there were spawning nests available.

Remove any fishing limits on Striper Bass in the delta. They are invasive and eat many of the salmon fry as they try to get to the ocean.

I often wonder how the salmon fared during droughts before there were dams to hold water to enable them to come up stream.

Begin cutting the amount of water sent to southern CA and build dams down there to store water for residential use. Each year less water should be sent south as they adapt to water saving landscaping and storage of their own water. In addition, there is a need for more R&D and building of desalinization plants for all coastal communities.

Jerry DeYoung
10349 Rodden Rd.
Oakdale, CA 95361
jerrylynette@msn.com