



I think we all agree that the proposed increased flows will decrease if not bring to zero the amount of water we can deliver to the people living within our district for the purposes of domestic water and irrigation.

It doesn't take a scientist or an economic impact study to know what the effects will be to Modesto and the surrounding cities if the proposed plan is approved.

All you have to do is take a 2 hour drive south of here (have any of you taken that drive). An elected official from Fresno stated at the SED hearing in Modesto that there is a humanitarian crisis south of here.

I toured these communities in and around Huron in 2015 and saw firsthand the effects of what happens when the Irrigation Districts that service these towns receive a decreased or zero water allotment.

- Increased pumping of ground water
- Dozens of wells a week go dry
- Subsidence
- Homes boarded up and abandoned due to no water supply
- Entire neighborhoods vacant
- Refillable tanks in front of each house for drinking water

If you think that can't happen here you're fooling yourself. It already has in the area south of here that is similar to ours and continues to happen.

You are working to solve a fish crisis but in turn are creating a humanitarian crisis.

WHAT PLAN DO YOU HAVE FOR THAT?

I know you don't control or issue our allotment of water, but in a sense, you will be when you require us to give 30 to 50%.

Before approving this plan, take into account the effects we already see in areas that now receive little to no surface water.

Sincerely,

Jason Word
Irrigation Field Services Manager
Modesto Irrigation District