



**Michael Abraham**  
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December 16, 2016

State Water Resources Control Board Members  
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: SUPPORT RESTORING HEALTHY FLOWS TO THE LOWER SAN  
JOAQUIN RIVER

Dear State Water Board members:

I urge the State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB") to use its authority to set strong flow standards on the Lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries, in order to restore fisheries and recreational uses.

As an avid fly fisherman, I rely on the health of California's rivers. It is with great dismay that I have watched the ongoing degradation of the State's waterways as a result of the over appropriation and out-of-stream use.

Healthy rivers and riparian habitats are necessary for all California citizens. They create important economic, recreational and scenic opportunities. The recovery of salmon, sturgeon, and steelhead stocks create great economic benefit. I, and my fellow outdoorsmen, spend time and money in the small communities throughout California where these iconic fish exist. I pay the highest licensing fees in the entire United States, hire fishing guides, buy food and meals locally, and engage charter boat operators. I am part of the more than 300,000 Californians who fish each year for salmon, sturgeon, and steelhead.

The proposed SWRCB objectives would help to improve flows on the Lower San Joaquin River. These flows will help to protect and restore the river, the communities and businesses that depend on the river and the Bay-Delta system. I hope the SWRCB will restore a long-lost appropriate balance between those who extract water from the San Joaquin River and the businesses, wildlife and livelihoods that depend on leaving more water in the river.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael D. Abraham". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael D. Abraham