

# SACRAMENTO WATER RECYCLING COALITION

March 9, 2011

## Subject: Support for Sacramento Regional Water Recycling Program

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) safely treats and disinfects an average of 150 million gallons a day of municipal wastewater - water that could be put to beneficial use as a recycled water supply for the Sacramento region. Unfortunately, most of this valuable and reliable water supply is not being recycled due to a lack of funding to construct the required infrastructure. Currently, SRCSD's Water Reclamation Facility produces up to 5 million gallons per day (mgd) of tertiary recycled water for landscape irrigation use in south Sacramento County.

We the undersigned Sacramento regional organizations have unified to form the Sacramento Water Recycling Coalition to gain support and funding to promote the expansion of the water recycling program for the Sacramento region. We believe that expanding the recycled water program will provide environmental and economic benefits. We support the concept of a Sacramento Water Recycling Program that will:

- Provide a sustainable water supply for the Sacramento region;
- Contribute to the water recycling goals of the State;
- Provide water conservation and an opportunity for water quality benefits.

We recognize recycled water as a valuable commodity that can be an important resource in the region's overall water portfolio. In 2007, SRCSD completed a Water Recycling Opportunities Study that identified several local and regional projects that could benefit from the use of recycled water. The South Sacramento County Agriculture and Habitat Lands Water Recycling Project is one of the projects identified by this study. This project would provide a safe and reliable supply of tertiary treated water for agricultural uses, reduce groundwater pumping, support habitat restoration efforts, and provide near-term benefits to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the region.

We respectfully request your support in securing a commitment of significant state and federal funding assistance for a Sacramento Regional Water Recycling Program. Financial support will mean that a project with multiple benefits, including benefits to the Delta, would be supported by all levels of government ensuring an equitable distribution of costs.

We sincerely appreciate your support and your assistance. If you have any questions or comments

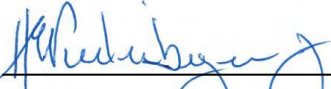


regarding our program or our projects, please feel free to contact Terrie Mitchell, Manager SRCSD Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at (916) 876-6092 or mitchellt@sacsewer.com.



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Pablo Garza  
External Affairs Manager,  
Central Valley & Mountains Region  
The Nature Conservancy



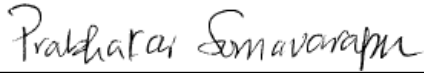
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Herb Neiderberger, Interim Director  
Department of Water Resources  
Sacramento County Water Agency



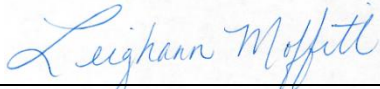
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Jude Lamare, President  
Friends of the Swainson's Hawk



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Prabhakar Somavarapu  
Director, Policy & Planning Department  
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District



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Leighann Moffitt, Interim Planning Manager,  
County of Sacramento, California



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Ward Winchell, General Manager  
Southgate Recreation & Park District



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Charlotte Mitchell, Executive Director  
Sacramento County Farm Bureau



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Lola Acosta, President, League of Women  
Voters of Sacramento County



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Mark Biddlecomb  
Director, Western Regional Office  
Ducks Unlimited



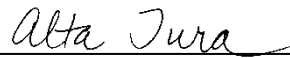
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Laura S. Gill  
City Manager, City of Elk Grove



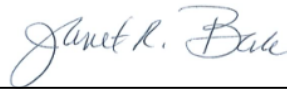
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Christoph Dobson  
Director of Operations,  
Sacramento Area Sewer District



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Alta Tura, President  
Sacramento Area Creeks Council



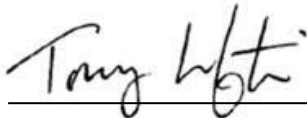
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Janet Baker, Director  
Sacramento County Regional Parks



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Darrell Eck, Executive Director  
Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority



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Tony Loftin, Chair, Sacramento County Group  
Sierra Club

cc: BDCP Steering Committee Members  
Delta Protection Commission Members  
Delta Stewardship Council Members  
SWRCB Members  
Don Glaser, Regional Director, US Bureau of Reclamation – Mid Pacific Region  
John Laird, Secretary of California Natural Resources Agency  
Mark Cowin, Director of California Department of Water Resources