



VOTE NO ON PROP 1

One of the most important issues on November's ballot is Proposition 1, the water bond. The Center is opposed to the bond because it will push the Sacramento–San Joaquin Bay Delta closer to collapse, leaving little chance for the imperiled Chinook salmon, smelt and steelhead.

California is no stranger to droughts — this is not the first, and it won't be the last. We need to deal with this reality and prioritize investing in water conservation, efficiency and recycling strategies, not just throw money around to build dams for powerful Big Agribusinesses. California voters should vote no on Prop 1 in November.

The Center is opposed to the water bond for three important reasons:

- 1. The Bond Subsidizes More Delta Water Exports.** The bond provides as much as \$572.2 million for the state to purchase water from upstream sources to fill California's drying rivers. However, once it becomes part of stream flow, the purchased water becomes "abandoned" water, up for grabs by the existing Delta pumps and the proposed Twin Tunnels. This will be very bad news for dozens of endangered and threatened species that call the Delta home. In short, the bond will use taxpayer money to acquire water just to satisfy the insatiable thirst of Big Agriculture and other private interests, at the cost of ecosystems and species.
- 2. The Bond Sponsors New Dams and Reservoirs.** The bond provides \$2.7 billion for additional water storage projects to benefit Big Agriculture, including the Sites, Los Vaqueros and Temperance Flat Reservoirs. Building these dams and reservoirs is misguided: It is a grossly expensive way to facilitate Big Agriculture's access to minimal additional water resources. The result will be damage to fragile ecosystems with little to no additional water during drought times, all on the taxpayers' dime.
- 3. The Bond Fails to Bring Real Water Solutions to California.** The bond slashed funding for water conservation, efficiency, recycling and more to \$1.5 billion — just half of what is allocated to provide additional storage. California's increasingly unpredictable climate cannot rely on old tools to solve its water-scarcity crises; we must send the bond back to the legislature until it prioritizes investing the public's money on proven, long-term water solutions that will secure our water future.

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