



www.mountaincountieswater.com

Board of Directors
 Bill George (EID) – Treasurer
 Jim Holmes (County of Placer) – Director
 Norm Krizl (GDPUD) – Vice President
 Scott Ratterman (CCWD) – Director
 Art Toy (AWA) – President

Barbara Balen (Past TUD) – Ex Officio
 Lowell Jarvis (Past PCWA) – Ex Officio

John Kingsbury – Executive Director

Executive Members

Amador Water Agency (AWA)

Calaveras County Water District (CCWD)

Calaveras Public Utility District (CPUD)

County of Amador

County of Calaveras

County of Placer

El Dorado County Water Agency (EDCWA)

El Dorado Irrigation District (EID)

Foresthill Public Utility District (FPUD)

Grizzly Flats Community Services District (GFCS)

Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (GDPUD)

Nevada Irrigation District (NID)

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA)

South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD)

Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD)

Twain Harte Community Services District (THCS)

Weimar Water Company

Associate - County

County of Alpine

County of Nevada

County of Sierra

County of Tuolumne

June 11, 2015

The Honorable Fran Pavley, Chair
 Senate Natural Resources Committee
 California State Capitol, Room 5046
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 647 – **SUPPORT, if AMENDED**

Dear Senator Pavley:

On behalf of Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA), I write to express our support for AB647, if amended.

MCWRA advocates for the water interests of its members in all or a portion of 15 mountain counties from the southern tip of Lassen County to Fresno County.

We are encouraged by the intent of AB647 to declare that the recharging of a groundwater basin for the purposes of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels constitutes a beneficial use of water, which we support.

As AB 647 moves forward, it would be helpful and important to clarify its intent to eliminate concern and confusion. We respectfully request that the Senate Natural Resources Committee consider the following language to Section 1242 of the Water Code:

The recharging of a groundwater basin by a local groundwater management agency or a local groundwater sustainability agency for the purposes of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels, including the diversion of streams, the flowing of water on lands, or other similar means necessary for the accomplishment of groundwater recharge for these purposes, constitutes a beneficial use of water if the local agency has determined that the recharge is consistent with the local agency's groundwater management plan or groundwater sustainability plan.

Thank you for the consideration. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 530.957.7879.

Sincerely,



John Kingsbury, Executive Director
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

c: Board of Directors, Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
William (Bill) Craven, Chief Consultant, Senate Natural Resources Committee
Dennis O'Connor, Principal Consultant, Senate Natural Resources Committee

The Honorable:

Assembly Member Susan Talamantes Eggman
State Capitol, Room 3173
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0013

Assembly Member Frank Bigelow
California State Capitol, Room 6027
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Assembly Member Brian Dahle
California State Capitol, Room 2158
P.O. BOX 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Assembly Member Beth Gaines
California State Capitol, Room 2130
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0006

Assembly Member James Gallagher
California State Capitol, Room 5128
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0003

Senator Tom Berryhill
California State Capitol, Room 3076
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Senator Ted Gaines
California State Capitol, Room 3070
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Senator Jim Neilsen
California State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900