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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Mountain Counties Water Resources Association Names Executive Director**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 –** The Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) Board of Directors has selected Justin Caporusso to serve as the organization's Executive Director. The selection was made following a widespread recruitment effort to fill the role vacated by John Kingsbury after his retirement earlier this year. Justin will assume his responsibilities on October 1, working closely with Interim Executive Director Jim Branham to ensure a smooth transition.

"We are very pleased that Justin will be serving in this key role for our organization," Board of Directors Chair Mike Lee (Placer County Water Agency) said. "John Kingsbury did so much to build this organization, and now we are confident Justin will build on that work in leading us into the future."

Justin is a seasoned public affairs professional with experience in association management, internal and external communications, government relations, stakeholder engagement, and crisis and issues management. With nearly two decades of public affairs and issue advocacy experience, Justin has worked with public and private organizations to develop and execute winning communications strategies that deliver sustained results and effective change.

In addition, Justin brings nearly 15 years of direct experience working with, and on behalf of, California's rural counties, including recently serving as a Vice President with the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC). During his time with RCRC, Justin served as Chair of the California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA), a diverse coalition of organizations created to promote the restoration and improvement of California's forested watersheds. Justin will utilize his experience and background to leverage partnerships and engage stakeholders to advance the advocacy and educational efforts of the association.

"As the Sierra Nevada region faces the serious ongoing consequences of drought and severe wildfire, I am looking forward to ensuring MCWRA become an even stronger voice on these key issues and the many others our members face," Caporusso stated.

MCWRA is a non-profit organization with a mission to "unite agencies, groups, and individuals whose interests include protecting and enhancing mountain county water resources." MCWRA covers 12 counties in California's Sierra Nevada region, from Plumas County in the north, to Mariposa County in the south. Members of MCWRA include numerous water agencies and counties, as well as private companies engaged in water and natural resources related activities. Learn more about MCWRA at <a href="https://www.mountaincountieswater.com">www.mountaincountieswater.com</a>.

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