



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Karla Nemeth
925-519-2987

**Zone 7 Water Agency Statement on Governor Schwarzenegger's Letter
to Senators Perata, Steinberg, and Machado**

Livermore -- Zone 7 Water Agency applauds Governor Schwarzenegger's efforts to fashion a comprehensive and balanced plan for ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability, and supports the Governor's call for environmental review of alternatives to water supply conveyance around the Delta and accompanying actions to recover fish species in the Delta.

Delta conveyance is not just about water for Southern California and agriculture in the Central Valley. Three million residents in five Bay Area counties rely on some form of Delta-conveyed water supplies. Zone 7 Water Agency conveys 80 percent of its water supplies through the Delta, providing drinking water to a population of 200,000 in the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore. This supply also irrigates 3,500 acres of agriculture that supports a \$200 million per-year wine industry in the Livermore-Amador Valley. The future of our communities relies on the increasingly efficient use of this supply, continued development and protection of local groundwater resources, and other water supplies. There is no question.

But the backbone of the state's water supply system, the Delta, is broken. Existing through-Delta conveyance facilities have proven detrimental to state fisheries and water supplies alike. The governor's current efforts to move forward with initial analysis of potential environmental impacts of the various alternatives under consideration is a commendable approach to keep things moving in a timely manner. We urge the Governor and Legislature to continue to work rapidly towards a balanced water solution. We are out of time - the state's fisheries and economic security depend on it.

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The Zone 7 Water Agency is one of the 10 active zones of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The District was established by the State Legislature in October 1949 to solve problems of flooding, drainage, channel erosion and water supply and conservation in Alameda County. In 1957, by popular vote, Zone 7 became a special district governed by a seven-member board of directors. Along with flood protection, Zone 7 supplies water to all of eastern Alameda County and a population of more than 190,000. Treated water is sold wholesale to local retailers, including the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the California Water Service Company. Zone 7 also distributes untreated water to local agriculture operations and golf courses.