



May 1, 2015

The Honorable Kevin de Leon
Speaker Pro Tem
California Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Anthony Saracino's California Water Commission reappointment – OPPOSE

Dear Speaker de Leon:

The undersigned organizations urge you advise Governor Brown to not reappoint Anthony Saracino to the California Water Commission. At a recent meeting of the California Water Commission, Mr. Saracino spoke out in favor of keeping the proposed raise of Shasta Dam on the list of storage projects that could be potentially funded by Prop. 1. He took this position even though state law clearly forbids state funding, permits, or support for any project that harms the free flowing character and extraordinary wild trout values of the McCloud River upstream of the McCloud River bridge (the approximately high water mark of the current Shasta Reservoir).

We don't believe that Mr. Saracino should be questioning state law in his role as Commissioner. State law is in no way ambiguous in regard to protecting the McCloud River from the proposed Shasta Dam raise. The raise would flood a portion of the free-flowing McCloud and harm its fishery and would therefore violate state law. Friends of the River helped draft the legislation that protected the McCloud River in 1989. We know what it says and what the intent of the legislation was. If Mr. Saracino has any doubts, he should call us.

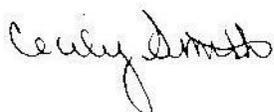
We are also concerned that Mr. Saracino may have a conflict of interest serving on the Commission while earning a living as a private consultant who may or may not be currently working for, or has worked for in the past, water agencies that may have a stake in state funding of storage projects. One of his previous employers, The Nature Conservancy, received hundreds of thousands of dollars of CALFED grants for various ecosystem restoration projects. Although we believe that The Nature Conservancy does and will

continue to play an important and laudable role in the restoration of California's river and estuary ecosystems, Mr. Saracino should not act as conduit for public funding of these activities. We urge you to oppose reappointment by the Governor of Mr. Saracino to the California Water Commission.

Sincerely,



Eric Wesselman
Friends of the River



Cecily Smith
Foothill Conservancy



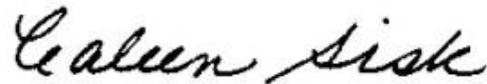
Kathryn Phillips
Sierra Club California



Bill Jennings
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance



Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla
Restore the Delta



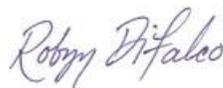
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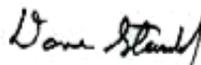
Carolee Krieger
C-WIN



Lowell Ashbaugh
Northern California Council of the
International Federation of Fly Fishers



Carol Perkins
Butte Environmental Council



Dave Steindorf
American Whitewater



Adam Scow
Food and Water Watch