



April 6, 2015

Assemblyman Adam Gray
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California's people are facing the impacts of the worst drought in over a thousand years. Now, State officials are proposing to complicate the problem by diverting more than 350,000 acre feet of water away from agricultural irrigation.

The State's proposal will negatively affect the ability to achieve sustainable groundwater basins, as mandated by California law. We are already dealing with lower water tables not only the result of pumping overdraft but also from the often overlooked lack of replenishment from irrigation water due to reductions. Agriculture seems to be taking the hit for the State to meet its environmental commitments. Now a whopping 60% increase is under consideration!

Bad decisions have caused a severe drought crisis to become a manmade nightmare. The Government/Environmental complex sees Agribusiness as an expendable part of this puzzle. What about the people? Our economy has lost billions of dollars it didn't have to lose. Thousands of people have lost their jobs. Our communities are impacted by the loss of payrolls and purchases locally.

Denying access and reducing water in reservoirs affects our drinking water source. I support AB 1242, which would require the State Water Resources Control Board to fully mitigate the impact of any increase in unimpaired flows.

Sincerely,

JERRY ANTONETTI
Mayor, City of Dos Palos