



Stop These Deadbeat Dams – Save Our Rivers!

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is finalizing its proposals for two dam projects that threaten to harm rare free-flowing segments of the McCloud, Sacramento, and San Joaquin Rivers. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell oversees the Bureau, so she has the ultimate authority to reject these ineffective, costly, and destructive projects. So called “drought relief” legislation currently pending in Congress also grants Secretary Jewell the clear authority to reject these dams. Please sign this letter TODAY urging Secretary Jewell to reject these unneeded dam projects and do everything in her power to protect these magnificent rivers.

The Bureau is recommending an 18-foot raise of the existing Shasta Dam in northern California, which will drown a segment of the McCloud River protected by state law. The



dam raise will destroy the cultural heritage of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe. Wildlife agencies have expressed concern that the Shasta Dam raise will modify flows downstream in the Sacramento River and

fish and wildlife habitat on federal lands in the Sacramento River Bend Outstanding Natural Area and the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge.



The Bureau is also finalizing its feasibility report and environmental statement for the proposed Temperance Flat dam on the San Joaquin River Gorge northeast of Fresno. This 665 foot-high dam will flood nine miles of the river gorge and more than 5,000 acres of canyon providing outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities for up to 84,000 visitors annually. The dam will completely drown a segment of the river recommended by the Bureau of Land Management (another Interior agency) for National Wild & Scenic River protection.

Not only will these dam projects harm some of the few free flowing river segments remaining in California, the projects will cost taxpayers billions of dollars and actually do little to improve California’s water supply. As President Obama’s science advisor John Holdren noted, “...the problem isn’t that we don’t have enough reservoirs, the problem is that there isn’t enough water in them.”

With your help, we’ll make sure our rivers are protected through the drought and for future generations! Together, we give our rivers the strong voice they deserve. **Thank You!**

Dear Madame Secretary,

This year the fate of three of California’s outstanding rivers—the McCloud, Sacramento, and the San Joaquin River Gorge—are in your hands. The Bureau of Reclamation is proposing dam projects that threaten to drown segments of these rivers and modify downstream flows to the detriment of fish, wildlife, and their habitat.

The Bureau of Reclamation is proposing to raise Shasta Dam on the McCloud and Sacramento Rivers and build the Temperance Flat dam on the San Joaquin River Gorge. These dam projects will drown thousands of acres of federal public lands rich in Native American cultural heritage and that provide important wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation opportunities. The Shasta Dam raise will flood a segment of the McCloud River protected by state law and modify downstream flows that will degrade habitat for endangered salmon and numerous threatened wildlife species in the Sacramento River Bend Natural Area and the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge. The Temperance Flat dam will drown a segment of the San Joaquin River Gorge recommended by the Bureau of Land Management for National Wild & Scenic River protection.

Building new or raising existing dams is ineffective, costly, and environmentally destructive. Increasing water use efficiency, water recycling, and recharging depleted ground water are far more effective, less costly, and less environmentally harmful solutions than building dams. Expansion of these methods can sustainably meet California’s water needs now and in the future.

I urge you to reject the proposed Shasta Dam Raise and the Temperance Flat dam and do everything you can to protect the federal lands and natural values of the McCloud, Sacramento, and San Joaquin Rivers.

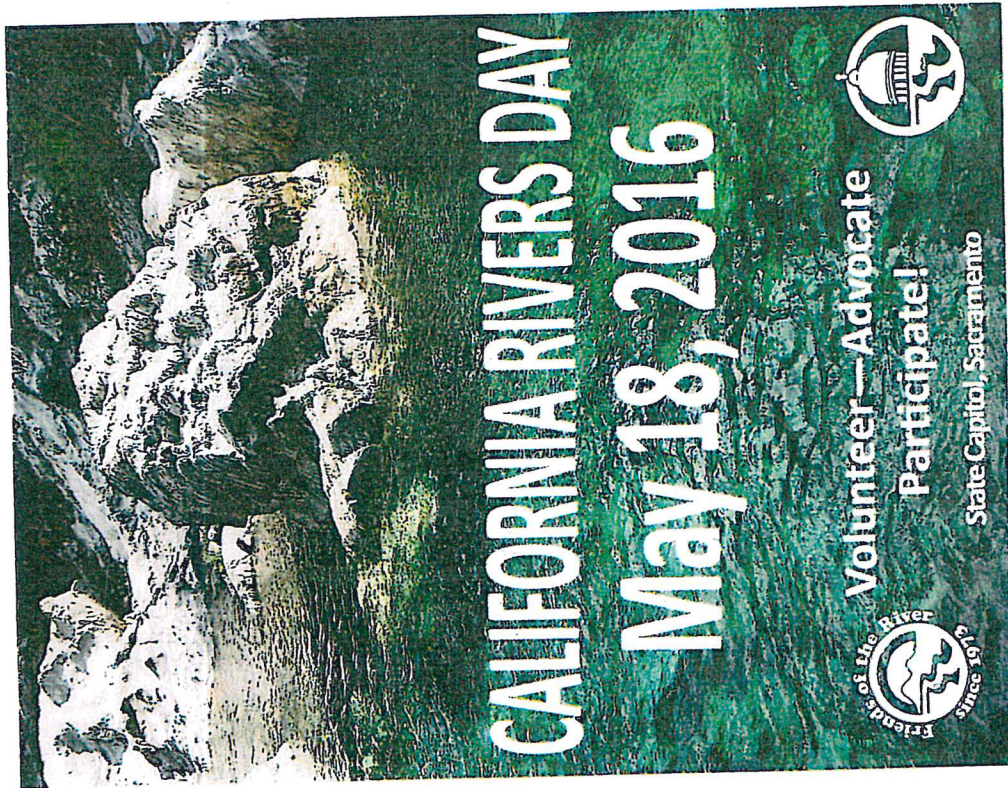
Thank you.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

[] YES! – Keep me informed about river issues by email.



CALIFORNIA RIVERS DAY

May 18, 2016

Volunteer — Advocate

Participate!

State Capitol, Sacramento



Join us for California Rivers Day!

The severe drought has unleashed an intense push to take us back to the era of dam building and weaken essential river protections.

Our goal is to build a more powerful river movement in California because rivers need a stronger voice in the halls of power.

Friends of the River invites you to join in the **California Rivers Day** on **Wednesday, May 18th** in **Sacramento** - an outreach, education, and activism event featuring rivers at the State Capitol. The day starts with a legislative breakfast and special guest speaker and includes the **California Rivers Fair** with booths from over 30 river groups and businesses coupled with legislator visits. That evening we'll celebrate our hard work at the **Capital River Awards** just steps from the Capitol.

CALIFORNIA RIVERS DAY Activities YOU can join!

Legislative Breakfast
8:30 am to 10 am

California Rivers Fair
10 am to 4 pm

Legislative Visits
10 am to 5 pm

Speakers & River Roll Call
12 noon to 1 pm

Capital River Awards
5:30pm to 7:30 pm

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Call Us or Visit:
(888) 464-2477 x 211
www.friendsoftheriver.org/california-rivers-day

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