



RESTORE HETCH HETCHY YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

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August 9, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero, Chair
California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: Support for Proposed Refuge Benefits of Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Proposition 1 Application

Dear Chair Quintero:

Restore Hetch Hetchy supports Proposition 1 funding for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project as proposed to provide water supply benefits for wildlife refuges. We believe the potential benefits of this project for California ecosystems is substantial.

Enlargement of Los Vaqueros as proposed makes sense, both to provide wildlife refuges with currently unavailable Level 4 supplies and to improve water supply reliability for Bay Area communities. While Contra Costa Water District has been an exemplary steward of natural resources over the past several decades, our support is conditioned on carefully the inclusion of prescribed operating criteria to ensure that the intended benefits are provided over time.

All projects incur some degree of environmental impact. As an off-stream reservoir, impacts associated Los Vaqueros construction have been minimal and its benefits for urban water customers have been considerable. With the proposed expansion, benefits will extend to Central Valley wetlands.

Sincerely,

Spreck Rosekrans
Executive Director

The mission of Restore Hetch Hetchy is to return the [Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park](#) to its natural splendor — while continuing to meet the water and power needs of all communities that depend on the Tuolumne River.

cc: California Water Commission members
Jerry Brown, General Manager, Contra Costa Water District