

Washington D.C. - Congressman McCarthy joined several of his neighboring California colleagues in cosponsoring legislation (H.R. 3105) that allows for the continued operation of the Central Valley Project, which would help get more water back into our communities regardless of biological opinions issued under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. McCarthy issued the following statement:

“Water is the lifeblood to many local jobs in our communities, and this bill is absolutely necessary to get the water flowing to help reverse the jobs losses in our communities and grow the food to feed our nation. We need to keep the pumps in the Delta on, and this legislation is a common-sense solution that will keep the water flowing to our homes and local businesses.”

U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation describes the Central Valley Project as reaching “from the Cascade Mountains near Redding in the north some 500 miles to the Tehachapi Mountains near Bakersfield in the south. Is comprised of 20 dams and reservoirs, 11 power plants, and 500 miles of major canals...Annually delivers about 7 million acre-feet for agriculture, urban, and wildlife use. Provides about 5 million acre-feet for farms -- enough to irrigate about 3 million acres or approximately one-third of the agricultural land in California.” (click here for more information)

Congressman McCarthy has also cosponsored the following bills to help alleviate the man-made water crisis in the San Joaquin Valley:

- H.R. 856, which would increase water deliveries to the Central Valley and Southern California urban and agriculture users by waiving regulations regarding the Delta Smelt at Delta pumps during times of drought.
- H.R. 996, which would increase water deliveries by temporarily exempting the operations of any water supply or flood control project from ESA when the Governor declares an emergency.

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