

<b>Environmental Caucus Statement of Interests (presented to the NSC on June 18, 2020).</b>	<b>Water Caucus Statement of Interests (presented to the NSC on May 21, 2020).</b>	<b>Business Caucus Statement of Interests (presented to the NSC on April 15, 2021).</b>	<b>Public Caucus Statement of Interests (presented to the NSC on August, 10, 2021)</b>
<p><b>CO-EQUAL OBJECTIVES</b> The Environmental Caucus supports the dual, co-equal objectives specified in the Year 2000 Water Forum Agreement.</p>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION</b> The members of the Water Caucus and Public Caucus desire to maintain the effectiveness, credibility, transparency and value of the Water Forum as a voice of and advocate for its regional environmental, business, public and water management stakeholders in furtherance of the two co-equal objectives of ensuring sufficient and reliable long-term water supplies while promoting, enhancing, and preserving the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the lower American River. There have been many successes with the Water Forum, Successor Effort and Habitat Management Element. We should strive to build on those successes.</p> <p><b>PARTNERSHIP</b> Continue to partner with the Environmental Caucus as</p>	<p><b>CO EQUAL OBJECTIVES</b> The business caucus supports the co-equal objectives identified in the 2000 Water Forum Agreement of ensuring sufficient and reliable long-term water supplies while promoting, enhancing and preserving the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the lower American River.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient and reliable long-term water supplies account for economic health, growth and quality of life in the region.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CO EQUAL OBJECTIVES</b> The Public Caucus supports the two coequal objectives of the 2000 Water Forum Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to provide a reliable and safe water supply for the Sacramento region’s long-term growth and economic health; and</li> <li>• to preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the lower American River.</li> </ul> <p>Note: As part of the WF 2.0 process the Public Caucus (PC) would like to engage with diverse communities in the region to assess if the co-equal objectives meet community needs and priorities or if they would benefit from being further clarified in the future.</p>

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	environmental stewards of the lower American River. Our long-term water supply reliability is interdependent with being environmental stewards through the Water Forum.		
N/A	N/A	<p><b>PLANNING PERIOD AND REALISTIC DEMAND PROJECTIONS</b></p> <p>Establishing a strategy for the Water Forum Agreement 2.0 starts with determining a planning period and targeting a water supply demand it will strive to meet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We believe a robust and enduring water supply plan should consider long-term needs of the region. It should look far enough out into the future to ensure that near- and long-term opportunities for this region are not constrained unnecessarily by inadequate water supply.</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOSTER LONG-TERM, INTEGRATIVE WATER AND LAND-USE PLANNING TO PROMOTE WATER RELIABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE ACROSS THE REGION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate information-sharing among agencies, so that land-use decisions account for the region’s long-term cumulative water supply availability (groundwater and surface water), acknowledge and address community needs, promote equity, and minimize environmental costs. Serve as a venue to share information about ongoing public planning processes.</li> <li>• Assess whether or not individual jurisdictional decisions add up towards promoting a sustainable and equitable future for the region.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage and enhance public programs and other funding sources to maximize the community and economic benefits of water programs and infrastructure investments.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Work with water agencies within the region to ensure they integrate the most current climate change* science and impacts including long range forecasts into water planning and resource management decisions; and coordinate the use of consistent methodologies and analytical tools throughout the region.</p> <p>*Climate change will increase variability, uncertainty, and complexity of flows in the American River and groundwater levels. The Water Forum needs to fully understand ongoing climate change over time and the implications for the Water Forum’s dual objectives.</p>	<p><b>ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Increase water supply resiliency and prepare for the variable hydrologic conditions and droughts that are expected to be exacerbated by climate change.</p> <p><b><i>Groundwater bank is an example of a project to help achieve this</i></b></p>	<p><b>RELIABILITY AND CERTAINTY OF SUPPLY</b> The Water Forum Agreement 2.0 needs to provide the community with a supply that can be counted upon regardless of climate, varying demand or year-to-year uncertainties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The business community cannot adequately plan for and maintain the participation in and distribution of jobs and economic benefits to its residents when water is not reliable.</li> <li>Adequate supplies including urban uses for planned growth and delivery mechanisms must be reliable for accurate planning efforts and realistic outcomes.</li> <li>Certainty of sufficient water supplies should not be sacrificed during years when climate conditions vary from normal. Water supply planning should account for measures to harness excess water occurring during wet years in order to ensure adequate reserves to accommodate dry years.</li> </ul>	<p><b>BOLSTER CLIMATE RESILIENCE TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY CAN CONTINUE TO LIVE IN THE REGION AS THE PACE AND SCALE OF CLIMATE CHANGE INTENSIFIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage broad foresight and realistic expectations about climate risk and its effects on water supply, flooding, fire, drought, and habitat management, basing this understanding on the best available data and science.</li> <li>Foster alignment among Water Forum members and advocate for a portfolio of projects to build resilience and bring benefits to the region. Build capacity for the Sacramento region to be a leader in climate resilience and adaptation and demonstrate the value and multiple social, economic, and environmental benefits of these projects.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide supplies adequate to serve all water demands in the community anticipated during the planning period.</li> </ul> <p>An appropriate level of redundancy can provide reliability of our water supply. Planning cooperatively between agencies to share water supplies in dryer years can provide more certainty. This will require additional facilities. The costs need to be commensurate with the benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Forum Agreement 2.0 needs to account for and be able to adapt to future climate change impacts on water supply.</li> </ul> <p>Once established, this reliability should allow water supply to be available without debate either area by area or use by use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once adopted, Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should not constrain the timing or location of site-specific demands.</li> </ul> <p>Climate change, economic health, growth and quality of life all bring the need for increased water supply security and resiliency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act with urgency together as a region to implement climate resiliency projects; educate the community on the scale and magnitude of expected changes; and further solutions/policies to address climate risks.</li> <li>• Carry out these efforts while maintaining the values and principles outlined in the “Representation &amp; Participation” section of this statement.</li> </ul>
<b>WATER CONSERVATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design water conservation programs and practices for the benefit of river ecosystem health that promote lower landscape water usage, have a regional focus, and draw upon best practices in</li> </ul>	<b>WATER USE EFFICIENCY</b> Promote efficient use of water by our customers and others.	<b>WATER EFFICIENCY, CONSERVATION, AND RECYCLING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficiency and conservation are both important components of a robust water supply plan but provide different approaches to increasing water supply. Conservation is a consumer</li> </ul>	<b>FOSTER WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION TO INCREASE DROUGHT RESILIENCE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and advocate for strategies and approaches to maximize water</li> </ul>

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<p>water-use efficiency, water recycling, water loss control, and water conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water conservation state minimums may not sufficiently achieve the desired conditions described above. As a result, regional water conservation programs may need to exceed minimum requirements specified in state laws in order to reduce the need and cost for increased surface water diversions and groundwater extractions.</li> </ul>		<p>behavior choice to reduce water consumption. Efficiency utilizes technical changes in order to reduce the amount of water normally consumed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efficiency is preferable to conservation, as gains are long-lasting. Existing residences and business should be incentivized to upgrade to water-efficient fixtures as well as irrigation systems and landscaping. “Brown as the new green” is not healthy for the ecology, economic value, or quality of life in our region. Good landscaping is a benefit to the entire region, as it reduces energy costs, minimizes the heat island effect, and sequesters carbon increasing urban ecology and increasing home values. The inherent value landscaping brings should be accounted for in a water supply plan.</li> <li>Water efficiency practices can also reduce the need for regular conservation/reduced demand for water without requiring a behavioral change. Conservation should be used as a tool in times of limited supply. Long-term water conservation can lead to desensitizing people, and could have the opposite effect. The efficacy of both efficiency and conservation measures need to be continuously evaluated.</li> <li>Cost effective water reuse and recycling can be used to augment water supply.</li> </ul>	<p>conservation. Encourage water reuse and recycling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage water conservation and use-efficiency programs that effectively reach and do not negatively impact low-income communities.</li> <li>Develop drought messaging at a regional level, describing collective impacts, and communicating urgency and interdependencies.</li> </ul>

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		People should have choices in water use efficiency and conservation. Education should drive messaging and empower people to make individual water management decisions that fit with their unique quality of life.	
N/A	<p><b>SERVING CUSTOMERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maintain sufficient water supply and supply reliability for existing and future customers.</li> <li>○ Ensure customer access to high quality water at a reasonable cost.</li> </ul>		<p><b>ENSURE THE WATER FORUM PROMOTES INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION FROM DIVERSE COMMUNITIES IN THE REGION THAT HAVE A STAKE IN THE WATER FORUM’S WORK.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engage with other caucuses to meaningfully and intentionally incorporate equity at the forefront of the Water Forum’s work.</li> <li>● Ensure that a Water Forum 2.0 Agreement and process represent all communities within the region. Vulnerable groups tend to be disproportionately impacted by decisions and yet their voices are often missing in conversations about water. Underrepresented groups include but are not limited to black, indigenous, people of color, low-income, and unsheltered communities.</li> <li>● Provide various pathways and opportunities for engagement to share information, raise</li> </ul>

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			<p>awareness, and gather input. Acknowledge that providing a space for diverse perspectives fosters stronger community support for a renewed Water Forum Agreement and for the Water Forum’s ongoing work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build strong relationships with California Native American tribes and other historically underrepresented groups, recognize traditional knowledge, and develop engagement protocols and co-management practices.</li> <li>• Advance dialogue on issues such as water affordability, river access, water quality, and participation through an equity and environmental justice lens. Integrate available social equity data into technical studies and analyses.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SURFACE WATER DIVERSIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Environmental Caucus is concerned that there is too much reliance on the modest-sized American River and that a</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>		

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<p>better connection to the Sacramento River could help address this concern.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that surface water diversions from the American River watershed uphold the co-equal goal of protecting the river. If surface water diversions are adverse to the protection of the river* and its environs, ensure that any damage caused from those diversions is fully mitigated, including flows and temperature.</li> </ul> <p><i>*River protection defined:</i> The Environmental Caucus wants the American River and the American River Parkway to be protected, preserved, and enhanced, including river flows, temperatures needed for fisheries, riparian habitats, recreation, and aesthetics of the Parkway; and for salmonid and other adopted restoration goals to be in accordance with California and federal laws.</p>			
<p>N/A</p>	<p><b>STRETCHING LIMITED RESOURCES</b>            Make the best use of limited resources by recognizing regulatory drivers and how they impact existing and future actions and priorities.</p>	<p><b>COST IMPLICATIONS</b>            Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should consider solutions that are both economical and cost effective relative to the benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We support investment in projects that allow for economic growth and enhance the water supply.</li> </ul>	



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	<p>Although we are open to other caucus' concerns related to elements of the Water Forum Agreement that are now governed by policies, programs, and mandates established by State law, the interests of the Water and Public Caucuses are:</p> <p>(1) to not engage in time consuming discussions and debates over such elements;</p> <p>(2) not expend limited resources duplicating them;</p> <p>and (3) maintaining the value and progress of investments already made in compliance with them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider exploring new infrastructure projects and the innovative use of new and existing infrastructure.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>FLOW STANDARD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the existing Flow Management Standard (which includes flow, temperature, and storage protections) and its long-term implementation.</li> <li>Acknowledge that the minimum flows included in the Flow Standard are just that: minimums, and that a variety of higher flows are needed at certain times and locations to protect the river and fisheries. Those higher flows need to be</li> </ul>	<p><b>N/A</b></p>		

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<p>determined under both historical flows and projected flows under climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize adaptive management to optimize ecosystem health and support healthy fish populations, as needed.</li> <li>Uphold the recommendation consistent with the Year 2000 Water Forum Agreement which specified that all signatories agree they will, “recommend to the State Water Resources Control Board an updated flow standard and an updated Declaration of Full Appropriation to protect the fishery, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic values of the American River.”</li> </ul>			
<p>N/A</p>	<p><b>RELATIONSHIP WITH RECLAMATION</b>  In order to enhance Water Forum effectiveness in influencing Folsom operations and habitat restoration/management of the lower American River, maintain and enhance our</p>		

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	collaborative relationship with the Bureau of Reclamation.		
<p><b>DRY YEAR PRINCIPLES</b> In dry and critically dry years, ensure that water purveyors make appropriate cutbacks in surface water diversions and take other flow augmentation actions to protect the river and to manage both surface and groundwater systems to assure adequate water supplies for all beneficial uses.</p>	N/A		
N/A	<p><b>HEALTH, SAFETY &amp; WELFARE</b> Protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents.</p>	<p><b>QUALITY OF LIFE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED</b> The business community relies on and contributes to a high quality of life in this community which includes economic and environmental components.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business is part of the economic engine which generates the capital to create and continue to fund universally recognized "quality of life" factors. Many of the amenities that people want in their community are funded by the business community, through taxes, volunteer efforts, charitable donations, and additional job generation.</li> <li>• "Quality of life" should be maintained and has many components, including:</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE WATER, AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE REGION.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek greater understanding of environmental justice issues and solutions related to water in the Sacramento region. Definitions of environmental justice<sup>1</sup> generally encompass both equitable protection from environmental hazards and meaningful participation of people of all races, cultures, incomes, and identities.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The California Government Code (Section 65040.12) defines environmental justice as "The fair treatment and meaningful participation of people of all races, culture and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of affordable housing for all income levels</li> <li>• Business opportunities</li> <li>• Cultural amenities</li> <li>• Recreational opportunities</li> <li>• Environmental resources</li> <li>• Healthy urban landscape</li> <li>• Desirable neighborhoods and communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate cross-caucus dialogue to identify and address existing gaps (e.g., lack of clean water, unaffordable water, limited access to the recreational and aesthetics of the river).</li> <li>• Recognize clean water as a key part of public health for the region and educate the community about water quality concerns, past and current river and water contamination sites, and efforts underway to address them.</li> <li>• Engage in cross-caucus discussion to explore if the Water Forum has a role in advancing projects and policies that contribute towards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Helping ensure all residents have access to safe and affordable water</li> <li>○ Considering equitable ways to set water rates and promote landscaping that foster water conservation and affordability</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Helping secure access to clean water and sanitation for unsheltered populations on the American River Parkway and explore strategies with partners to benefit regional water quality and river health</li> <li>○ Understanding the factors that have led to an increase in populations experiencing homelessness on the Parkway and work with partners to address them, where appropriate</li> <li>○ Promoting public safety for all people, including sheltered and unsheltered communities on the Parkway</li> </ul>
<p><b>GROUNDWATER: FOCAL AREA</b>  The Environmental Caucus would like to focus on integrative surface water and groundwater management as an interconnected system to improve regional sustainability and achieve ecosystem goals. This focus will require a deep dive to fully understand the relationship and</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p><b>GROUNDWATER</b>  Conjunctive use of groundwater is essential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should safely optimize groundwater use for the environmental and economic benefits to the community.</li> </ul>	

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<p>interdependence of groundwater and surface water systems.</p> <p><b>GROUNDWATER: WATER BANK</b>            Coordinate with the Region’s water agencies to ensure their water banking agreements achieve positive benefits to any affected aquifer(s)* including increased basin storage, increased subbasin operating flexibility, increased flows and decreased temperatures for regional rivers, and improved conditions for groundwater dependent ecosystems.</p> <p>*The Environmental Caucus recognizes that the three regional groundwater subbasins are interconnected and that actions in any one subbasin could affect the other.</p> <p><b>GROUNDWATER: INTER-BASIN COORDINATION</b>            The Water Forum plays a leadership role in facilitating collaboration and resolving cross-boundary groundwater issues to foster effective regional implementation of SGMA.</p> <p>Note: The Environmental Caucus acknowledges that under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), each</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimizing groundwater use offers redundancy and the flexibility to deal with wet and dry conditions.</li> <li>• Supporting conjunctive use efforts to share groundwater supply directly or in lieu with those water purveyors which do not have alternatives to surface water is part of a solution.</li> <li>• It must be recognized that some water purveyors do not have the opportunity to use surface water and therefore must rely on groundwater.</li> <li>• Management of groundwater resources will be essential to sustain groundwater supply opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recharging of groundwater aquifers may be cost effective, reliable, and beneficial.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As our water supplies become more in demand, consider banking surface water in wetter years. Although this will result in additional capital costs, it will improve water supply reliability.</li> </ul>	

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<p>Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has the primary responsibility to develop plans to correct imbalances in supply and demand for its groundwater basin.</p> <p><b>WATER FORUM II: GROUNDWATER &amp; SGMA</b>  The evolution of groundwater management in SGMA has created the authority to address regional groundwater-dependent ecosystem health, including the Cosumnes River and its environs, in water management decision-making — as well to improve aquifer conditions for water-supply reliability. The Environmental Caucus proposes that the Water Forum acknowledge regional ecosystems in addition to the American River, and promote a multi-benefit approach to sustainable water management that includes those ecosystems*.</p> <p>* Acknowledgment of regional ecosystem importance (including the American, Cosumnes, and Sacramento Rivers, Pacific Flyway wetlands, groundwater dependent riparian forest, etc.) could be included in the Water Forum website and Regional Water Bank public outreach materials, for example. A multi-benefit approach to</p>			

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sustainable water management could include making certain areas near key groundwater/surface water ecosystems off limits for production wells for the Regional Water Bank — or it could mean reconnecting floodplains to high river flows to increase recharge to the S. American and Cosumnes sub-basins and so on.			
		<p><b>REGIONAL CONTEXT</b>  <b>Water Forum Agreement 2.0 exists in a larger regional context. Planning for our needs is influenced by activity outside our region. To be successful we need to consider the effects and influence of other regions within the state.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our caucus has interests which extend into other areas of the state. While we recognize this process is not designed to solve all the water problems of California, we should strive to work collaboratively with other regions.</li> <li>• Failure to resolve our local issues and adequately plan for our own needs may result in outside interests benefiting from water supply that should remain within the Sacramento region.</li> </ul>	
N/A	<p><b>PROTECTING WATER QUALITY</b>  Protect groundwater and surface water quality.</p>		



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<b>INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT</b> Facilitate the region’s water agencies efforts to ensure that groundwater and surface water are jointly managed to achieve the co-equal objectives of the Water Forum, and to protect the river and ecosystems of regional waterways.	N/A		<b>PROMOTE INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote better understanding of the connection between groundwater and surface water and regional conjunctive use.</li> <li>• Support and promote creative solutions and actions that lead to sustainable groundwater use.</li> <li>• Advocate for greater coordination and investment in infrastructure to enhance groundwater recharge.</li> </ul>
<b>HABITAT</b> Maintain and build upon the Water Forum’s existing Habitat Management Element to enhance recreation, fish spawning and rearing habitat including floodplains, side channels, and riparian vegetation. Foster and participate in similar programs for the other river systems in the region when funding and partnerships are available.	N/A		<b>PROMOTE EQUITABLE ACCESS, PUBLIC AWARENESS, AND ENGAGEMENT IN THE RESTORATION AND PROTECTING OF HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH OF THE LOWER AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with partners to promote equitable access and connection to the Parkway and help identify and address barriers of entry for recreation.</li> <li>• Promote the community's knowledge, appreciation, and love of the American River and its habitat.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information and tours of the Lower American River watershed and identify community concerns, aspirations, and desired changes.</li> <li>• Recognize the ecological, medicinal, religious, and cultural values tied to native habitat, and work with partners to restore native plants and species of long-time significance to local communities, particularly indigenous communities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LANDUSE/GROWTH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that land use decision-makers have a clear, complete and objective assessment of current and future water availability when considering new growth and land-use designation changes with significant water-use implications; and for water availability assessments to sufficiently protect the health of regional rivers and groundwater sub-basins in a way that accounts for increased drought intensities and uncertainties introduced by climate change.</li> <li>• Ensure that new growth is contingent upon– among other requirements–</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p><b>PROMOTE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND HEALTH OF THE REGION</b>  <b>The vitality of the region relies on economic growth to provide jobs, housing and improve services.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic growth and the maintenance and creation of jobs are of critical importance to the community. Employment for all members of the community provides a foundation for services, individual and family self-sufficiency and community stability.</li> <li>• For this region to remain economically healthy, we must continue to attract a diversity of jobs and industry to this region, as well as maintain and facilitate the growth of existing industries. Providing adequate and attainable housing is an important component of economic growth. This</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOSTER LONG-TERM, INTEGRATIVE WATER AND LAND-USE PLANNING TO PROMOTE WATER RELIABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE ACROSS THE REGION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate information-sharing among agencies, so that land-use decisions account for the region’s long-term cumulative water supply availability (groundwater and surface water), acknowledge and address community needs, promote equity, and minimize environmental costs. Serve as a venue to share information about ongoing public planning processes.</li> </ul>

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<p>substantial guarantees for water conservation in new and existing developments, especially during droughts.</p>		<p>region has become an attractive location to new residents due to the employment and the housing opportunities as well as the other quality of life factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to recruit new businesses and maintain our current business community, we need to assure that the basic needs, including water supply, are available. Water supply must be cost effective and be competitive with other regions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should not act as, or be used as, a growth control mechanism.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should be designed to accommodate all water demand in the community and not be used as a tool to control or direct growth or demand. The community has other mechanisms and more appropriate governmental agencies to direct the path of growth.</li> <li>This region continues to be a place within our state where more achievable housing opportunities exist. Housing is a statewide crisis and must be addressed to benefit all current and future residents of this region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should respond to the planned growth in the region.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess whether or not individual jurisdictional decisions add up towards promoting a sustainable and equitable future for the region.</li> <li>Leverage and enhance public programs and other funding sources to maximize the community and economic benefits of water programs and infrastructure investments.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy growth levels should be established by the community using open and public forums and decision-making processes. The Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should then facilitate and accommodate those growth levels.</li> <li>• General Plans are the planning tool and guiding document for a local jurisdiction and it is within that context that population and capacity issues should be discussed and balanced to meet the environmental, social, and economic needs of a community. No single issue should be allowed to drive those decisions. In the case of water, the resource should be developed to accommodate the demand.</li> <li>• Growth decisions must be informed by objective information about available water supply. The legislature has identified the requirements for such an assessment through SB 610 and SB 221.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lack of planning for resolving water supply issues will not prevent increasing demands from economic health (or growth), but will affect current users, including existing residents and businesses.</b></p> <p><b>Demand for water is non-responsive to the planning or actual provision of water supply. The Water Forum Agreement 2.0 should strive to meet the desired and projected levels of demand</b></p>	

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		<p>without attempting to direct or restrict those demands. Planning for the impacts of a variety of hydrological conditions, increased supply security and water efficiency are ways to manage demand. Over-reliance on long term conservation could lead to diminished supply, which would be unhealthy for the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If water supply does not plan to meet the inevitable population growth, current users (all segments of the community) will suffer.</li> </ul>	
N/A	<p><b>BE PART OF THE SOLUTION</b> Recognizing that the region’s water supply reliability benefits from the State having a reliable water supply, consider participating in solutions to assist the State to solve its water challenges.</p>		<p><b>SERVE AS A MODEL AND CATALYST OF COMMUNITY WATER STEWARDSHIP IN THE REGION. REACH, CONNECT, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER CURRENT AND FUTURE WATER STEWARDS.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foster a broader understanding of water issues in the region. Educate community members about the Water Forum’s work (current and proposed water projects), and educate other Water Forum Caucuses about community concerns, values, and priorities.</li> <li>Play an active role as a steward of the lower American River Parkway, maintaining and adaptively managing projects. Be an excellent partner to other organizations with stewardship roles.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with partners to host and support a variety of community events to educate and engage the larger community in the Water Forum’s work. Research, support, and add value to projects and programs that engage with schools and local residents to help identify and design solutions.</li> <li>• Actively and strategically reach out to historically underrepresented communities and school districts that lack access or exposure to the American River Parkway.</li> </ul>
<b>OVERARCHING ISSUES</b> Address additional issues that affect water supply and rivers: homeless impacts, water quality, public right to water, adjacent habitats along rivers, and flood management.	N/A		