



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tuolumne agencies' statement on voluntary agreements

Following Governor Newsom's February 4, 2020 Cal Matters editorial "California must get past differences on water. Voluntary agreements are the path forward," Turlock Irrigation District, Modesto Irrigation District and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission submit the following joint statement.

Governor Newsom hasn't wavered from his commitment to, and confidence in, the ongoing voluntary agreement process. The Governor and his Administration have brought a newfound sense of urgency and recognition of the need for collaborative water management.

The Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement is an explicit example in this revolutionary approach as it seeks to balance water supplies to support thriving communities and fisheries, while striving to break the current paradigm of management through regulation and litigation.

Science remains the cornerstone of the Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement. We've invested heavily in studying and truly understanding the Tuolumne River, the species and industries that depend on it and developed a realistic and sustainable plan. We are encouraged that the Voluntary Agreement we submitted over a year ago, based on Tuolumne River specific science, has held up to the public and scientific examination.

While we're analyzing the State's recent update on the voluntary agreements framework and associated potential impacts to our communities, we remain active participants in the process.

We look forward to continuing momentum toward the successful advancement of these historic agreements.

Media Contacts:

For Modesto Irrigation District, contact Melissa Williams | melissa.williams@mid.org | 209.526.7390

For Turlock Irrigation District, contact Josh Weimer | jnweimer@tid.org | 209.883.8361

For the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, contact Will Reisman | wreisman@sfwater.org | 415.551.4346