



#SourcingOurSustainableFuture

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Statement on Proposition 4

On July 3, Acting Governor Mike McGuire signed the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024. The \$10 billion bond will appear as Proposition 4 on the November 2024 ballot.

We have consistently supported and advanced previous water bonds that have provided tremendous benefits to the State of California. We appreciate provisions in Proposition 4 to support important efforts, such as groundwater recharge, dam safety, floodplain reactivation, watershed management in our headwaters, and safe drinking water in Northern California. Yet, we believe any water bond put to the voters should be comprehensive and this bond falls short of fully addressing many of the important climate and water priorities throughout California recognized by the Administration, water suppliers, and conservationists throughout the state. We are also very cognizant of this moment in time and we are respectful of the current fiscal challenges in California and the related sentiments held by many elected officials and voters throughout the state.

Based on these considerations, we are not taking a position nor engaging on the November 2024 climate bond and we recommend the Governor and the Legislature begin work on a comprehensive funding and financing strategy for water resources that would feature and support infrastructure and the specific actions in the Governor's *Water Strategy for a Hotter and Drier California* and California's *Salmon Strategy for a Hotter, Drier Future*. With most of the water improvements in California currently funded by ratepayers and landowners for our cities, rural communities, and farms, we encourage this strategy to focus on the importance of general funds for the state's water and environmental priorities, which may include a future water bond.

Adopted by the Board of Directors on July 10, 2024



Sourcing our sustainable future through responsible management of the essential resource that millions of birds, hundreds of thousands of fish, thousands of farms, and millions of people all rely on—water!