

1 Adam Keats (SBN 191157)
2 LAW OFFICE OF ADAM KEATS, PC
3 303 Sacramento St., Second Floor
4 San Francisco, CA 94111
5 Tel: 415-430-9403
6 Email: adam@keatslaw.org
7 *Attorney for Bring Back the Kern, Kern River Parkway Foundation, Kern Audubon Society, Kern-
8 Kaweah Sierra Club, Panorama Vista Preserve, and Center for Biological Diversity*

9 John Buse (SBN 163156)
10 CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
11 1212 Broadway, Suite 800
12 Oakland, CA 94612
13 Tel: 510-844-7100
14 Fax: 510-844-7150
15 Email: jbuse@biologicaldiversity.org
16 *Attorney for Center for Biological Diversity*

17 **THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
18 **BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**
19 **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE**

20 IN THE MATTER OF KERN RIVER
21 APPLICATIONS:
22 Application 31673 (North Kern Water Storage
23 District and City of Shafter); Application 31674
24 (City of Bakersfield); Application 31675 (Buena
25 Vista Water Storage District); Application 31676
26 (Kern Water Bank Authority); Application
27 31677 (Kern County Water Agency);
28 Application 31819 (Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water
Storage District)

**STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF
PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS**

Status Conference: August 17, 2021
Time: 9:00 PM
Hearing Officer: Nicole L. Kuenzi

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 This Status Conference Statement is jointly submitted by Bring Back the Kern, Kern River
3 Parkway Foundation, Kern Audubon Society, Kern-Kaweah Sierra Club, Panorama Vista Preserve,
4 Center for Biological Diversity, and California Trout (“Public Interest Groups”). The Public Interest
5 Groups each work to protect the ecological and recreational resources that are at issue in these
6 applications and join these proceedings to give voice to the public’s interest in a flowing Kern River,
7 and the public trust, environmental justice, recreational, ecological, and climate resiliency benefits
8 that will come with water flowing once again down the Kern River through the City of Bakersfield.

9 The Public Interest Groups are in support of the City of Bakersfield’s application for water
10 rights forfeited by Kern Delta Water Storage District and oppose all other applications. The Public
11 Interest Groups seek to restore water in the Kern River, thereby helping to restore public trust and
12 environmental justice resources that have been diminished by the near total diversion of the Kern
13 River’s flows. The Public Interest Groups agree with the City that since the forfeited water rights are
14 pre-1914 rights, they should not simply fall to junior rights holders according to the “law of the
15 river,” but should instead be awarded by the Water Board to the applicant who will put this water to
16 the highest beneficial use, which is the City.

17 **Bring Back the Kern** is a local not-for-profit organization formed with the mission of
18 restoring flowing water in the Kern River through the city of Bakersfield. Bring Back the Kern
19 works to achieve this through building awareness among the public and putting pressure on decision
20 makers to change the status quo and put more water in the river.

21 **Kern River Parkway Foundation**, a local non-profit organization, works to protect,
22 preserve, and restore the natural riparian and wildlife habitat of the Kern River. The Foundation
23 develops and maintains public open space, structures, monuments and parks that preserve and
24 beautify the Kern River, and supports projects that advance educational and scientific knowledge of
25 the Kern River.

26 **Kern Audubon Society** is a local, independent chapter of the national Audubon, founded in
27 Bakersfield in 1973 and incorporated in 1979, that works to educate the public about the importance
28 of birds and to protect important bird habitat areas as well as sensitive bird species across Kern

1 County. The Kern River through Bakersfield is a major factor in attracting birds traveling in the
2 Pacific Flyway. KAS has published a popular birding map of the Kern River from the mouth of the
3 Kern Canyon to Enos Lane, including local groundwater recharge basins.

4 **Sierra Club, Kern-Kaweah Chapter** is the local chapter of the Sierra Club, advocating on
5 behalf of disadvantaged communities and threatened habitats/species in Kern, Kings, and Tulare
6 counties.

7 **Panorama Vista Preserve** is a 936 acre open space preserve in the heart of urban
8 Bakersfield, with over 2.5 miles of riverfront property. The preserve is owned and managed by the
9 Kern River Corridor Endowment and Holding, Inc., a non-profit organization established in 1998.
10 Since its founding, the preserve has restored over 250 acres of native plant species to this sensitive
11 area bordering the river. Rocky Point Wier, the diversion point where most of the Kern's flows are
12 diverted each year, also happens to be located in the middle of the preserve. The preserve has
13 become a refuge for plants and animals species of the San Joaquin Valley. It also serves as a refuge
14 for Bakersfield residents, with an extensive network of trails on the bluffs and alongside the river.

15 **Center for Biological Diversity** ("Center") is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving
16 life on earth through science, law, and creative media, with a focus on protecting the lands, waters
17 and climate that wild animal and plant species need to survive. The Center has offices in California
18 and other states, and has more than 1.7 million members and online activists, including members in
19 and around Bakersfield, California and the Kern River. The Center has a particular interest in
20 protecting, restoring, and enhancing the public trust resources of the Kern River, and returning flows
21 in the lower Kern River to a more natural regime for the benefit of people, wildlife, and native
22 ecosystems.

23 **California Trout** ("CalTrout") is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) wild fish conservation organization
24 with six offices located throughout California. It serves more than 10,000 members and supporters
25 throughout the state. CalTrout strives to solve the state's resource issues while balancing the needs
26 of wild fish and people. It is driven by science to restore vibrance and abundance to California's
27 freshwater ecosystems by working to ensure resilient wild fish thrive in healthy waters. It is
28 CalTrout's belief that abundant wild fish indicate healthy waters and healthy waters benefit all

1 Californians. Through strong partnerships in key geographies where wild fish influence the
2 community, CalTrout drives innovative, science-based solutions that work for the diverse interests of
3 fish, farms, commerce, and people. CalTrout is actively working on tributaries to the Kern River and
4 wherever freshwater Public Trust resources are not adequately protected.

6 **ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED AT STATUS CONFERENCE**

7 **1. Intent to pursue application**

8 Not applicable.

9 **2. Additional issues, or modification of issues in Notice of Public Hearing**

10 As discussed below, the Public Interest Groups believe the Notice should be modified to
11 reflect the Board's need to conduct a full public trust assessment of the Kern River in connection
12 with these applications.

13 **3. Phased hearing**

14 Given the complexity of the issues before the board, the Public Interest Groups encourage the
15 Water Board to separate the hearing into distinct phases to address the following issues separately, and
16 in the following order:

17 • *Kern Delta WSD Forfeited Water Rights Allocation* – The Board must decide how much
18 water has been forfeited and whether the City of Bakersfield should receive it. This is an annual supply
19 of water with distinct dissenting parties, as well as significant environmental justice and public trust
20 implications; the Board should first decide this issue separately from any other water rights applications
21 to ensure it is properly addressed.

22 • *High-Flow Water Rights Allocation* – The Board should then, in a separate phase,
23 address how to allocate high-flow water supply in extremely wet years.

24 • *Comprehensive Public Trust Assessment* – Finally, as discussed in more detail below,
25 we encourage the Board to look at all water appropriations from the lower Kern to determine if Public
26 Trust resources are being sufficiently protected. While we support the City of Bakersfield's argument
27 that the forfeited water should belong to the city and flow in the river, the Board should not simply
28 award the water to the City and assume that the State's obligation to the Public Trust has been fulfilled,

1 as it most certainly will not be, even with the allocation of this forfeited water. *The Kern River will still*
2 *need additional protections.* Rather than force the greater Bakersfield community to wait decades
3 longer for a future hearing to address these issues, the Water Board should look at all rights claims on
4 the river and assess whether additional environmental flow standards are required to sustain the Kern.

5 **4. Other procedural or hearing issues**

6 **A. The Need for Comprehensive Review of the Public Trust and The Kern River**

7 Given the Water Board's obligation to protect the public trust resources of our State, any
8 consideration of water rights claims on the Kern River must include a comprehensive review of the
9 river's public trust resources. This review must include public recreational access to the river,
10 fisheries, plants (including reforestation of adjoining lands) and other wildlife that should be
11 sustained by the river. These resources have never been considered for Kern River appropriations
12 and have suffered greatly from near complete water diversions as a result. More often than not, these
13 diversions take the entirety of the Kern's flows from the final 25 miles of river through the City of
14 Bakersfield to the river's terminus.

15 The current condition of the final 25 miles of Kern River past Rocky Point Weir, where the
16 Beardsley and Kern Island Canals divert much of the river's flows in all but the wettest of years, is a
17 clear violation of California's Public Trust Doctrine. Current management of the river also violates
18 Fish and Game Code 5937. With some estimates of 120,000-150,000 acre-feet¹ needed to maintain a
19 flowing river in this lower section of the Kern River and an average annual outflow of 700,000 acre-
20 feet per year in the Kern River sub basin, a year-round "wet" river is not an impractical or
21 unachievable outcome to restore public trust resources, nor would it be too onerous of a requirement
22 on water diverters.

23 A public trust assessment of the Kern River will show that the most beneficial use of this
24 public resource is to restore a flowing river. It would demonstrate the need for a flowing river to
25 satisfy California's obligations for environmental justice and climate resiliency, including
26 compliance with Executive Order 3530. The Kern River flows through the center of Bakersfield,
27

28 ¹ By some estimates, the Kern River channel through the city of Bakersfield will absorb by
groundwater percolation up to 10,000 acre-feet per month when it is flowing. To flow water further
west to the Kern's historical terminus at Buena Vista Lake would require additional water.

1 California’s ninth largest city, with half a million people within 10 miles of both sides the
2 riverbanks. Bakersfield is one of California’s most statistically disadvantaged populations. A
3 flowing river would greatly enhance the city’s most prized greenspace, providing public health,
4 environmental, aesthetic, and clear quality of life benefits. Water allocated for recreational and
5 environmental purposes, particularly when the alternative is no water at all, will provide a net
6 societal benefit greater than the marginal impact of this water used elsewhere. Although we object in
7 principle to a dollar value being put on every fish, bird, tree, every property value increased, every
8 job created, every visit by a kayaker or angler, and every moment of joy experienced by child or
9 adult playing in the river², we are confident that if such an economic assessment—that considers the
10 real value of the river to all interests, not just water rights holders—a flowing Kern River will be
11 found to be the best use of this resource.

12 Furthermore, all water that is put to non-consumptive use in the Kern River can still be put to
13 consumptive use elsewhere, as surface water diverted further downstream or as groundwater for
14 irrigation or municipal use. These consumptive uses are likely compatible with a flowing river,
15 especially considering the river’s historical terminus in Buena Vista Lake.

16 Should a Water Board reprioritization of uses force diverters of the Kern to pay more for
17 their water, by finding other supplies, pumping the Kern’s flows up from a recharged aquifer, or by
18 enhancing/building additional transference infrastructure to divert river flows further downstream, it
19 would not be excessive, or without Water Board precedent (i.e. *CalTrout I decision*) to mandate
20 those parties do so to correct this environmental injustice. Many pre-1914 Water Rights holders on
21 the Kern River have paid next to nothing for their annual Kern River appropriations for over a
22 century,³ benefiting greatly from the abundance brought by the river, while the people and
23 ecosystems near the river bear the cost of a dry riverbed.

25 ² While no study of the recreational value of water on the Kern River has been completed, a study
26 conducted using trip frequency model on the San Joaquin and Stanislaus rivers found that the
27 recreational value of the water was competitive to the market price of that water for agricultural
28 irrigation. Loomis, John and Michael Creel. “Recreational Benefits of Increased Flows in California’s
San Joaquin and Stanislaus Rivers.” *Rivers*, Volume 3, Number 1, pgs 1-13.

³ Water Districts who contract for Kern River water do pay for the water, while those who hold the water rights pay nothing for the Kern’s annual flows. Since forfeiture, the Kern Delta water has primarily gone to North Kern, who has paid nothing for that water.

1 The Board should first answer the question of the forfeited rights, then resolve the high-flow
2 rights applications, and then conduct a public trust review of all appropriative rights. Without a
3 comprehensive assessment of the Kern’s public trust resources, the Water Board will have missed a
4 major opportunity and significantly delayed justice for the river. It would be inconsistent with the
5 Board’s mission and with state goals to delay this assessment any longer.

6 **B. A Flowing River Aligns with SWRCB and State Missions**

7 Returning flows to the river is consistent with the Water Board’s mission to “preserve,
8 enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection
9 of the environment, public health....” Protection of the environment includes reforestation of
10 adjacent lands; restoring riparian habitat for endangered, threatened, and native species; and enabling
11 future climate resiliency for the region. A flowing river, and its restored riparian habitats, will
12 provide critical carbon sequestration. Returning river flows will also preserve the quality of drinking
13 water supplies for the half million people who live in the Bakersfield area. Public health will be
14 enhanced by restoring the aesthetic and recreational refuge of a flowing river. A flowing river will
15 also address environmental justice and racial equity issues: public access to a flowing river will
16 greatly benefit disadvantaged communities in Bakersfield who have more limited ability to travel
17 outside of the area to find quality green spaces for recreation, or to afford their own amenities like a
18 backyard pool to cool off in the hot summer months. A flowing Kern River also supports the state’s
19 Executive Order 3530 commitment by expanding equitable outdoor access to a large urban center
20 and by protecting and restoring biodiversity of the southern San Joaquin Valley. Finally, a flowing
21 Kern River is essential for compliance with the joint element of the Kern County and Bakersfield
22 General Plans.

23 **C. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act**

24 The landmark 2014 passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act gives new
25 importance to the City of Bakersfield’s goal of restoring a flowing river. Given that about two thirds
26 of the municipal water supply for Bakersfield comes from groundwater, it’s critical that the city has
27 enough water to recharge groundwater supplies, which the city does through the Kern River channel.
28

1 Regional water districts that divert water from the Kern River are also working to balance
2 their groundwater withdrawals with banking operations. While this groundwater sustainability
3 planning is long overdue, it is of great concern to parties to this statement that additional
4 groundwater banking operations using Kern River water will occur at the expense of the public trust
5 resources and of a flowing river. The groundwater aquifers that have been badly depleted across the
6 southern San Joaquin Valley were first filled by flows from the Kern River. Now that the aquifers
7 are so drawn down and hydrologically separate from each other, water is diverted great distances
8 away from the river to recharge other aquifers at the expense of the river corridor itself.

9 Once the water leaves the river channel and enters a canal, the public is barred from using it,
10 often by chain link fences. While fish and birds still roam these waters, the grasses, shrubs, and trees
11 that try to tap into these man-made rivers are routinely cleared from the sides of the canals. The
12 same issues apply to groundwater storage banks. The public is barred from enjoying the water, and
13 plants and animals are prevented from having a much more suitable natural habitat to thrive in.

14 The Water Board should see to it that, wherever possible, the Kern River channel be used for
15 conveyance of water instead of canals, and that the river channel be used for groundwater recharge
16 in lieu of groundwater storage banks. This can help address the demands of the Sustainable
17 Groundwater Management Act while also helping restore Public Trust resources.

18 **D. Endangered and Threatened Species**

19 Securing additional flows for the Kern River would promote the conservation and recovery
20 of a number of federal- and state-listed endangered and threatened species. One such species is the
21 critically endangered Buena Vista Lake Shrew (BVLS), a small mammal dependent on riparian
22 habitat to survive. Populations have dropped precipitously as most of the habitat for BVLS has been
23 destroyed by water diversions. These animals have been documented at the groundwater recharge
24 areas west of Bakersfield, as well as some of the areas bordering the Kern River west of the city. For
25 BVLS to survive in an area, it is important that the area have annual flowing water, thereby allowing
26 the vegetation to grow, which provides shelter and food sources for BVLS. Increasing the flows to
27 this portion of the Kern River channel, and ensuring that there is some water every year, even if it
28 isn't year-round, is critical to ensure this species survival. At a minimum, annual pulse flows may be

1 necessary to sustain the limited habitat of the BVLS and to expand its habitat so that this endangered
2 species may have a chance at survival.

3 In addition, additional flows would promote growth of riparian vegetation essential for
4 endangered and threatened species such as yellow-billed cuckoo, southwestern willow flycatcher,
5 and least Bell's vireo, and would benefit other special status species including tricolored blackbird
6 and San Joaquin kit fox.

7 **E. Fish and Game Code Section 5937**

8 California's native freshwater fish species are experiencing widespread and rapid decline,
9 and the species below Lake Isabella in the Kern are no exception. A recent assessment of
10 California's freshwater fish populations indicates that 76% of the state's native fish species are
11 vulnerable to extinction if present trends continue.⁴ Predicted effects of climate change are likely to
12 accelerate this declining trend.⁵ While many factors have contributed to the imperilment of
13 California's native fish species, the alteration of river ecosystems by dams is recognized to be a
14 dominant driver of population declines.⁶

15 The potential for dams to harm fish and fisheries has long been recognized in California. As
16 early as 1852, less than two years after California entered the Union, the state Legislature outlawed
17 the placement of instream obstructions to salmon migrations.⁷ Subsequent laws enacted in 1870 and
18 1880 further protected migratory fish. Nevertheless, repeated reports of drying rivers indicated that
19 many dam operators ignored early fish passage laws.⁸ A 1914 Fish and Game Commission study
20 that documented impacts of low water flows on fish prompted the Legislature to enact the 1915
21 Flow Act, which explicitly required flow releases below dams to protect fish. This law eventually
22 became Section 5937 of the state Fish and Game Code, which states:

24 ⁴ Moyle, P. B., J. V. E. Katz & R. M. Quiñones, 2011. Rapid decline of California's native
inland fishes: A status assessment. *Biological Conservation* 144(10):2414-2423.

25 ⁵ Moyle, P. B., J. D. Kiernan, P. K. Crain & R. Quiñones, 2012. Projected effects of future
26 climates on freshwater fishes of California California Energy Commission, CEC-500-2012-
028.

27 ⁶ Katz, J., P. Moyle, R. Quiñones, J. Israel & S. Purdy, 2012. Impending extinction of salmon,
steelhead, and trout (Salmonidae) in California. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*:1-18.

28 ⁷ Börk, K. S., J. F. Krovoza, J. V. Katz & P. B. Moyle, 2012. The rebirth of Cal. Fish & Game
Code 5937: water for fish. *UC Davis Law Review* 45:809-913.

⁸ Börk et al. 2012.

1 “The owner of any dam shall allow sufficient water at all times to pass through a fishway,
2 or in the absence of a fishway, allow sufficient water to pass over, around, or through the
3 dam, to keep in good condition any fish that may be planted or exist below the dam.”

4 The language plainly indicates that the dam owners have the responsibility to release enough
5 water to support fish. The Kern River is dewatered and the temperature changes due to the
6 placement of fish barriers have devastated the rainbow trout and other freshwater fish populations.
7 By any definition, the current environment does not allow for sufficient water for fish to be
8 considered “in good condition.”

9 **CONCLUSION**

10 A flowing river is both critical to Bakersfield and this portion of the San Joaquin Valley. It is
11 not some ephemeral, unrealistic vision. Prior to the arrival of western settlers, the Kern River once
12 sustained Kern, Goose, and Buena Vista lakes – 3 of the largest freshwater lakes in California –
13 interconnected by a vast network of distributaries and wetlands. On higher flow years, the Kern sub-
14 basin would overflow northwards via the Buena Vista Slough into Tulare Lake, the largest
15 freshwater lake in the U.S. west of the Great Lakes. In wet years, Tulare Lake would overflow
16 northward to join the San Joaquin River, eventually flowing into the Delta and the San Francisco
17 Bay.

18 The wetland corridor stretching from the 3 lakes of the Kern north to Tulare Lake were a
19 critical stop on the Pacific Flyway for millions of migratory birds, and they also sustained a million
20 antelope and tule elk, and thousands of grizzlies.⁹ The now mostly-extinct lakes were home of
21 commercial fisheries of terrapin and Sacramento perch. Native American peoples, the Yokuts,
22 depended on these ecosystems for their culture and their survival. While at the time of settlement
23 these wetlands were viewed as a nuisance, if we could see them today, we would see their inherent
24 value as biodiversity hot spots and a veritable “Serengeti” of North America.¹⁰ Since nearly all of
25 these ecosystems have been destroyed, even a small increase in wetland and riparian habitat would
26 have a significant impact in helping sustain native species while also helping migratory birds as well.

27
28 ⁹ Reisner, Marc. Cadillac desert. United Kingdom: Penguin Books, 1993.

¹⁰ Garone, Philip. The Fall and Rise of the Wetlands of California's Great Central Valley. United States: University of California Press, 2020.

1 The Water Board has a significant opportunity now to help restore the Kern River and its
2 public trust resources, which it should do by:

- 3 • Addressing forfeited water rights questions on the Kern and granting any forfeited rights to the
4 City of Bakersfield to provide flow in the river through the city;
- 5 • Addressing questions about high-flow water separately from questions about forfeited water;
6 and
- 7 • Conducting a comprehensive review of the Kern River’s public trust resources and determining
8 what additional protections may be necessary to ensure that public trust resources are protected
9 for generations to come.

10
11 Respectfully Submitted,

12 DATED: August 10, 2021

LAW OFFICE OF ADAM KEATS

13
14 By: 

15 Adam Keats
16 On behalf of Public Interest Groups Bring Back the
17 Kern, Kern River Parkway Foundation, Kern
18 Audubon Society, Kern-Kaweah Sierra Club,
19 Panorama Vista Preserve, Center for Biological
20 Diversity, and CalTrout

21 DATED: August 10, 2021

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

22 By: 

23 John Buse
24 On behalf of Center for Biological Diversity
25
26
27
28

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 I, Adam Keats, am over eighteen years of age and not a party to this action. I am employed in the
3 county where the service took place. My business address is 303 Sacramento Street, 2nd Floor, San
4 Francisco, CA 94111.

5 On August 10, 2021, I caused to be served the following document:

6 **STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS**

7 on the following parties in this action listed in the attached service list for this matter, by email.

8 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
9 true and correct. Executed this 10th day of August, 2021, in San Francisco, California.

10
11 By: Adam Keats
12 Adam Keats
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

SERVICE LIST

updated May 3, 2021

Sent by U.S. Mail and e-mail:

Adam Keats
Aruna Prabhala
Center for Biological Diversity
351 California Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94104
akeats@biologicaldiversity.org
aprabhala@biologicaldiversity.org

Nicholas Jacobs
Somach, Simmons & Dunn
500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814
njacobs@somachlaw.com
Attorney for Kern County Water Agency

Kevin M. O'Brien
David Cameron
Downey Brand LLP
621 Capitol Mall, 18th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
kobrien@downeybrand.com
dcameron@downeybrand.com
jhughey@downeybrand.com
nbigley@downeybrand.com
Attorneys for Kern Water Bank Authority

Eric Garner
Patrick D. Skahan
Best Best & Krieger LLP
300 South Grande Ave., 25th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
eric.garner@bbklaw.com
patrick.skahan@bbklaw.com
Attorneys for City of Shafter

Isaac St. Lawrence
McMurtrey, Hartsock & Worth
2001 22nd Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301
isaac@mhwlegal.com
Attorney for Buena Vista Water Storage District

Ryan Bezerra
Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan
1011 22nd Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
rsb@bkslawfirm.com
Attorney for Buena Vista Water Storage District

Colin L. Pearce
Jolie-Anne Ansley
B. Alexandra Jones
Duane Morris LLP
One Market, Spear Tower, Suite 2200
San Francisco, CA 94105-1127
clpearce@duanemorris.com
jsansley@duanemorris.com
bajones@duanemorris.com
Attorneys for City of Bakersfield

Virginia A. Gennaro
City Attorney's Office
City of Bakersfield
1600 Truxtun Avenue, Fourth Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301
vgennaro@bakersfieldcity.us

Scott K. Kuney
Young Wooldridge, LLP
1800 30th Street, Fourth Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301
skuney@youngwooldridge.com
Attorney for North Kern Water Storage District

Richard Diamond
General Manager
North Kern Water Storage District
P.O. Box 81435
Bakersfield, CA 93380
rdiamond@northkernwsd.com

Jennifer Spaletta
Spaletta Law PC
P.O. Box 2660
Lodi, CA 95241
jennifer@spalettalaw.com
*Attorney for Rosedale-Rio Bravo
Water Storage District*

Mike Young
Kern County Farm Bureau
19000 Wildwood Road
Buttonwillow, CA 93206
michaelcyoung@sbcglobal.net

Thomas Nassif
Western Growers Association
17620 Fitch Street
Irvine, CA 92614
tnassif@wga.com

Gail Delihant
Western Growers Association
1415 L Street, Suite 1060
Sacramento, CA 95814
gdelihant@wga.com

Steven L. Teglia
General Manager
L Mark Mulkay
Water Resources Manager
Richard Iger
General Counsel
Kern Delta Water District
501 Taft Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93307
steven@kerndelta.org
mulkay@kerndelta.org
richard@kerndelta.org

Robert Donlan
Craig Carnes
Ellison Schneider Harris & Donlan LLP
2600 Capitol Ave., Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95816
red@eslawfirm.com
Attorneys for Kern Delta Water District

Jack Pandol
900 Mohawk Street, Suite 220
Bakersfield, CA 93309
jpandolsr@grapery.biz

Amelia T. Minaberrigarai
General Counsel
Kern County Water Agency
3200 Rio Mirada Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308
ameliam@kcwa.com

Tim Ashlock
Engineer-Manager
Buena Vista Water Storage District
P.O. Box 756
Buttonwillow, CA 93206
tim@bvh2o.com

Jonathan Parker
General Manager
Kern Water Bank Authority
5500 Ming Avenue, Suite 490
Bakersfield, CA 93309
jparker@kwb.org

Gabriel Gonzalez
City Manager
City of Shafter
336 Pacific Ave.
Shafter, CA
ggonzalez@shafter.com

Eric Averett
General Manager
Dan Bartel
Assistant General Manager
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage
District
P.O. Box 867
Bakersfield, CA 93302
eaverett@rrbwsd.com
dbartel@rrbwsd.com

Art Chianello
Kristina Budak
City of Bakersfield
Water Resources Department
1000 Buena Vista Road
Bakersfield, CA 93311
achianel@bakersfieldcity.us
kbudak@bakersfieldcity.us