



March 1, 2019

The Honorable Henry I. Stern, Chair
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
State Capitol Room 4038
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 19 (Dodd) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Stern,

On behalf of the above-listed organizations, we are writing to support Senate Bill 19. This measure would require the Department of Water Resources to develop a plan to deploy a network of stream gages that includes a determination of funding needs and opportunities for reactivating existing gages.

Stream gages provide essential information about one of California's most precious resources - water. Gaps in the stream gage network make it difficult to understand stream flow conditions and help ensure that both people and nature are getting water when and where they need it. This information is critical to the success of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which requires local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to quantify the interaction of surface and groundwater in order to protect groundwater dependent species.

Comprehensive data on stream flow conditions – provided from gages – does not exist in California. Senate Bill 19 would help identify which watersheds have the largest gage gaps, where inactive gages exist, and prioritize funding to deploy stream gages based upon the gaps in the system.

Senate Bill 19 is critical step to improve how we manage water in California. We urge your support when Senate Bill 19 is heard in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Clary
Water Program Manager
Clean Water Action

JUAN ALTAMIRANO

Associate Director of Policy
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David Primo
Conservation Director
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