

Comments on State Water Resources Control Board Presentation Re: Water Supply and Demand Program—Napa River Watershed

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Sept. 12, 2024

This will be the fourth modeling effort of water and groundwater resources of the the Napa River watershed in the last 25 years; these are the 2005 Baseline Data Report, the ongoing Napa Valley Integrated Hydrologic Model, the California Environmental Flows Framework and now this one. In addition, CEMAR wrote a report on Napa River flow enhancement and the Stillwater Sciences wrote the Limiting Factors Analysis. And in terms of restoration projects, there are the several restoration projects on mainstem of the River and the ongoing work to improve fish passage in the River and its tributaries. Here is a preliminary list of my questions for you today:

- 1) Why another study? How do the studies inform each other?
- 2) What is the peer review process for this model?
- 3) Has this (or any other model like NVIHM) attempted to model system behavior in a hindcast scenario using the 15,000 acre-foot pumping cap envisioned in the GSP?
- 4) Has this (or any other model) modeled changes in hydrology resulting from vegetation management for fire resilience? *Climate change?*
- 5) Is there a detailed Critical Zone component anticipated, especially for salmonid rearing habitat in tributaries?

- 6) As yet, we do not know how effective measures to cap pumping at 15,000 acre-feet will be. Will this model look at even lower limits? What is the adaptive management framework?
- 7) State budget constraints are lowering resources for SWRCB programs—will there be resources to support this effort going forward?
- 8) Finally, the GTAG is not a perfect fit for rolling out this ambitious project. What is the outreach and communication strategy? Who is responsible for carrying that out? Have you identified a local partner?