



March 13, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
1233 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
233 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
U.S. Senate Minority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Shasta Dam and Reservoir Enlargement Project**

Dear Honorable Representatives Ryan, Pelosi, McConnell and Schumer,

The letter is to express opposition to the Department of the Interior's proposal to fund design and pre-construction activities associated with the proposed Shasta Dam and Reservoir Enlargement Project.

As you may be aware, the Shasta Dam enlargement project would violate California law due to the adverse impacts that project may have on the McCloud River and its fishery. California Public Resources Code section 5093.542 generally prohibits state agencies and departments from assisting in any way "in the planning or construction of any dam, reservoir, diversion, or other water impoundment facility that could have an adverse effect on the free-flowing condition of the McCloud River, or on its wild trout fishery."

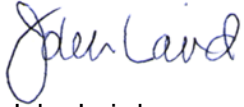
California shares the Department of Interior's commitment to investing in new water storage. In 2014, California voters overwhelmingly approved a \$7.5 billion water bond (Proposition 1) that provides \$2.7 billion to invest in new water storage. The California Water Commission is reviewing 11 proposed projects as part of a competitive process and expects to make initial funding determinations and award early funding this summer. The Shasta Dam enlargement project would inundate several miles of the protected McCloud River in violation of state law and therefore is not eligible for Proposition 1 funding.

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. 916.653.5656 Fax 916.653.8102 <http://resources.ca.gov>



Leveraging state, local and federal dollars is the most effective way to ensure that important water storage projects are funded and built. As such, I ask that you not pursue the Shasta Dam enlargement project, which disregards California law, and instead work with the State of California to fund water storage projects consistent with our California Water Action Plan and Proposition 1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Laird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Laird  
Secretary for California Natural Resources

cc: Members of the California Congressional Delegation  
Scott J. Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, United States Department of  
the Interior