



Roundtable Members*

Thad Bettner, *Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District*
Juliet Christian-Smith, *Pacific Institute*
Martha Davis, *Inland Empire Utilities Agency*
Sandy Denn, *Snow Goose Farms*
Brock Dolman, *Occidental Arts & Ecology Center WATER Institute*
Allan Fulton, *UC Cooperative Extension*
Corny Gallagher, *Bank of America Merrill Lynch*
Sarge Green, *CA Water Institute*
Kamyar Guivetchi, *CA Department of Water Resources*
Ann Hayden, *Environmental Defense Fund*
Rene Henery, *Trout Unlimited*
Glenda Humiston, *USDA Rural Development*
Luana Kiger, *USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service*
Danny Merkley, *CA Farm Bureau Federation*
David Orth, *Kings River Conservation District*
Jovita Pajarillo, *US Environmental Protection Agency Region 9*
Mark Rentz, *Association of CA Water Agencies*
Tom Rogers, *Almond Farmer*
Bruce Rominger, *Rominger West Winery*
Dave Runsten, *Community Alliance with Family Farmers*
Steve Shaffer, *Environmental Consulting for Agriculture*
Esmeralda Soria, *CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation*
Fran Spivy-Weber, *CA State Water Resources Control Board*
Tom Tomich, *UC Davis Agricultural Sustainability Inst.*
Casey Walsh Cady, *CA Dept. of Food and Agriculture*
Diana Westmorland Pedrozo, *Agricultural Advocate*
Leo Winternitz, *The Nature Conservancy*

Convener:

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<http://aginnovations.org/roundtables/crwfs/>

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January 17, 2012

Craig McNamara
President, CA State Board of Food and Agriculture
1220 N St., Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Marvin Myers
Chair, Water Subcommittee, CA State Board of Food and Agriculture
1220 N St., Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear President McNamara and Chairman Meyers:

I am writing on behalf of the California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply. We were pleased to learn that the State Board of Food and Agriculture is addressing water transfers—this is an issue of paramount importance to the agriculture sector as well as the state as a whole, and sound decision-making and broad collaboration will be important to making effective policy. We applaud and support the State Board's efforts to engage sister agencies in coordinated decision-making.

In the recent (November 2011) letter from the State Board to the heads of the Natural Resources Agency, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Department of Water Resources inviting collaboration on the topic, reference was made to a checklist of issues related to water transfers developed by the California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply. I would like to clarify that the partial list of issues that was presented to the State Board by CRWFS project director, Katy Mamen was based on the input of a small cross-section of Roundtable members to illustrate the kind of issues that are of concern to stakeholders, and is not a consensus product of the Roundtable.

The Roundtable has discussed the State Board's efforts to develop more coordinated policy on water transfers. The Roundtable membership is currently working on the topic of water storage for agriculture and has not had the opportunity to discuss water transfers in detail. However, we would welcome a formal invitation to examine the topic of water transfers and would like to be kept informed of future work by the State Board or the Department of Food and Agriculture on the subject of water transfers. We also encourage the use of the California Water Plan Update 2009 Volume 2, Chapter 7 on Water Transfers, which outlines a list of major issues facing water transfers as well as recommendations, that were vetted with a broad group of stakeholders (available at <http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/cwpu2009/index.cfm>).

Again, on behalf of CRWFS, thank you for your leadership on the issue of water transfers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph McIntyre".

Joseph McIntyre
President, Ag Innovations Network
Facilitator, California Roundtable on Food and Water Supply

Cc. Josh Eddy, Executive Director, State Board of Food and Agriculture
Members of the State Board of Food and Agriculture

*Members of the Roundtable participate as individuals. Statements made by the Roundtable do not necessarily reflect the views of the organizations with which members are affiliated.