

Mayor Gavin Newsom
City of San Francisco

Dear Mayor Newsom:

I strongly encourage you to protect and restore the Tuolumne River as part of the city's water system plan.

The Hetch Hetchy Water System is clearly in need of repair and earthquake safety retrofitting, but the Public Utilities Commission does NOT need to take more water from the Tuolumne to ensure water quality and reliability for San Francisco and its customers. You can achieve these goals by making San Francisco and its customers a model of water conservation, efficiency and recycling.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has done much more for water conservation and recycling than the Bay Area. If San Francisco and other Bay Area water districts invested in water conservation first, they would need less water from the Tuolumne.

I urge you to be a good steward of the Tuolumne River ecosystem. San Francisco should also commit to funding a program to protect and improve the Tuolumne River watershed, including land acquisition, in-stream fish and wildlife habitat enhancement and recreation improvement projects.

Please guarantee that healthy amounts of water will continue to flow into the Tuolumne River, an irreplaceable natural wonder.

Sincerely,