



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 5, 2010

CONTACT:

Fiona Hutton
Ann Newton
(818) 760-2121

**STATEMENT BY LAURA KING MOON
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER OF THE STATE WATER CONTRACTORS
REGARDING TEMPORARY LIFT OF PUMPING RESTRICTIONS IN DELTA**

Sacramento, CA - "Public water agencies welcomed the federal court's decision today to temporarily lift pumping restrictions on the water projects given their very minimal impact on the salmon and the much-needed opportunity to capture and store increased water supplies generated by our recent storms.

While it is only a 14-day pause from the restrictions, it demonstrates a necessary desire to balance the needs of the environment, people and our economy. Prior to the judge's decision, water agencies had lost more than [90,000 acre-feet of potential water supplies](#) in a single week. That much water could have served the needs of about 180,000 California families for a year.

Turning the state water projects on and off like faucets won't solve our ecosystem and water supply crisis however. Rather than continuing a band-aid approach, we need a long-term, structural fix for the Delta that can help the endangered fish recover and allow us to capture water supplies during the wet years like this one when it is available."

###

A copy of the decision by U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger is available upon request.

The State Water Contractors is a statewide, non-profit association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project. Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural lands. For more information on the State Water Contractors, please visit www.swc.org.