



The Honorable Barbara Boxer
 112 Hart Senate Office Building
 United States Senate
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

From The San Francisco Bay to the Los Angeles River, California's waterways are treasures. Our environment, our public health, and our way of life all depend on the health of our rivers, lakes, and streams. Therefore, on behalf of our organizations' thousands of members and supporters, we are

writing to thank you for your leadership on clean water. We value and need your leadership now more than ever to speak out in favor of EPA's clean water rule. This is the Obama administration's most significant step forward for clean water to date—proposing a rule to restore Clean Water Act protections to 140,000 miles of California's streams, including those that feed and filter the San Francisco Bay.

Over your years in the Senate, Californians have been able to depend on you as a strong voice for the waterways we love. Your work to help ensure that the San Francisco Bay gets the protections it deserves has been invaluable.

As you know, Clean Water Act protections for small and intermittently-flowing streams and a host of wetlands have been in limbo for more than a decade because of a pair of Supreme Court cases and subsequent policies the Bush administration put in place to implement those court rulings. As a result, some categories of California's waterways have been almost entirely written off, and others have been harder to protect. When finalized, this rule will help ensure that these waterways get the protection they deserve and protect the drinking water for 7.3 million Californians.

As some members of Congress launch attack after attack on these commonsense efforts to protect waterways in California and across the country, we urge you to continue to stand up as a leader for our rivers, lakes, and bays and speak out to elevate the importance of the proposed Clean Water Act rule so that this and many more efforts to protect the waterways we love will become a reality.

Sincerely,

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