

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 2, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy, and Leader McConnell:

We commend your efforts to invest in our nation's infrastructure. As Representatives of districts across the American West, we urge you to support Western water infrastructure by including the Bureau of Reclamation in any infrastructure package.

The current water infrastructure throughout the Western United States is aging and can no longer keep up with the increasing demands of our nation. To meet our water supply needs it is imperative that we invest in water infrastructure.

Western states are home to millions of families as well as millions of acres of fertile agricultural lands across the country. Our states play a pivotal role in contributing to the nation's economy by keeping America fed. We are also home to some of the most iconic lands and diverse species – preserving these regions is critical to our water quality and supply.

Over the last decade, Western states have been plagued by unprecedented wildfires, floods, and droughts. The increasing frequency of these natural disasters has put additional pressure on our already strained water infrastructure. The relentless cycle of these natural disasters highlights the urgency to update our water infrastructure. For the West, droughts and wildfires are no longer seasons, but rather, an ongoing occurrence year-long. That is why we can no longer wait to address our water infrastructure needs. Critical investments in water storage, quality, and drought-resilience is needed now more than ever.

We call on House and Senate leadership to include the Bureau of Reclamation in any infrastructure package. Investing in Western water is essential for the health and economy of our communities and the nation as a whole. We look forward to working with you in the implementation of these common-sense priorities.

Sincerely,



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Josh Harder
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress