



FINAL NOTICE:

ONLY PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL WATER DIVERSION TO BE HELD MONDAY, DEC. 19

Future drinking water quality, jobs and economy to be harmed

For Immediate Release: Dec. 12, 2016

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WHAT: [State Water Board Hearing on Bay Delta Plan public hearing](#)

WHERE: 301 W. Main St., Merced

WHEN: 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 19

The State Water Resources Control Board will hold its **only Merced hearing on Monday Dec. 19** to receive public input on the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan. The most complete and known information at this time can be found on MID's webpage by clicking [here](#).

The State's Bay Delta Plan has a direct impact on eastern Merced County, including lost irrigation water, drinking water quality impacts, \$231 million in economic losses, 1,000 household incomes.

During the Dec. 19 hearing, the community will be able to directly express their objection of the Bay Delta Water Plan to the State Water Board. The hearing's venue is the Merced Theater at 301 W. Main Street in Merced.

"It is absolutely imperative that the State Water Board see a strong presence from the community and MID growers," said MID General Manager John Sweigard. "Once this water is lost from our community, it will never return. This is a direct impact on at least 1,000 household incomes. This will harm everything from mortgage and car payments, to college education and retirement plans."

In direct response to the State's Bay Delta Plan, MID is proposing the [Merced River S.A.F.E. Plan](#) (Salmon, Agriculture, Flows and Environment). This proposal is aimed directly at supporting salmon through a combination of efforts on the Merced River. These include immediately providing increased, targeted water releases to support migrating salmon; addressing predatory bass; restoring approximately 5 miles of Merced River habitat that was drastically altered by dredge mining in the late 1800s and early 1900s; and modernizing the Merced River Salmon Hatchery.

The community is encouraged to provide both written and oral comments to the State Water Board during the hearing. Letter templates and other helpful information can be found at the “Get Involved” section of www.MercedRiverSAFEPlan.org

For any additional support assistance, please contact MID at [722-5761](tel:722-5761), or stop by the office at 744 West 20th Street in Merced.

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