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## This Is Our Fight

That's why I introduced:

- **HR 2977** to fight the water cuts that punish the Valley for fish-killing pollution that is dumped far to the north of us.
- **HR 3999** to require the federal bureaucracy to help our economy by easing water restrictions caused by the Endangered Species Act.
- **HR 3750** to authorize transfers of water in the Central Valley Project to overcome limits to water transfers.
- **HR 4225** to provide the Secretary of Interior with authority to adjust the amount of non-federal funding required for water infrastructure projects.



## Report From Congressman Jim Costa

Why water means so much to our Valley economy

Dear Valley Resident:

Some constituents ask me why I work so hard to change federal regulations to increase water allocations for our area.

They agree we deserve a fair share of this precious resource. But some think this is only about agriculture and not a fight for our very way of life.

That's why I am sending this report. It underlines how Valley agriculture influences our entire local economy—from employment in rural farming communities to thousands of jobs and opportunities in our urban areas.

I believe this helps explain why water dominates my Congressional agenda. And why the fight for fair federal water policy is so important to us all.

Sincerely,

Congressman Jim Costa

# Valley Water Facts

Why water dominates Jim Costa's Congressional agenda

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Why the fight for fair and balanced federal policy is important to us all

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Agriculture is the Valley's economic engine in many ways.

We grow over 350 crops and provide over half the nation's fruits, vegetables and tree nuts. We are number one in American milk production.

Valley ag production and processing accounts directly for about 38% of regional employment.

So it is obvious there are many farm-related jobs at stake when federal water allocation decisions are made.

## Ripple Effect Of Water Cuts

But some people don't realize how this ripples through our entire Valley economy.

Every dollar produced on the farm produces over three dollars in the local and regional economies.

## Farmworkers And Their Families

When farmworkers' income drops or disappears, their families suffer. Merchants who would otherwise receive their business do too.

## This Is Our Fight

We deserve a fair share of this precious resource



## Our Entire Economy Depends On Water

When agricultural employers are forced to cut back, many Valley service providers also suffer—from haulers, packers and processors to equipment sales and repairs, vehicle purchase and upkeep, marketers, legal work and much more.

That all means fewer people throughout the Valley can afford to shop for items they want and need. And when people can't make ends meet, we see fallout like home loan defaults and loss of construction jobs. Throughout our economy, non-agricultural employers postpone investing and re-think hiring decisions.

## Actions

This year, we started with the prospect of a zero water allocation from federal sources. Thanks to my efforts and those of many others, the Valley will get more than 40% allocation and we are fighting to make that more.

I also voted time and again to keep the pumps on. For a look at some of the bills I introduced in this fight, please turn to the back cover.

Or you can go to my website: [www.costa.house.gov](http://www.costa.house.gov).