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City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER KALB

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL SB 1199 (HANCOCK) STATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE CALIFORNIA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION FOR THE MOKELUMNE RIVER FROM BELOW SALT SPRINGS DAM TO THE UPSTREAM END OF PARDEE RESERVOIR.

WHEREAS, The Mokelumne River has provided clean, high-quality drinking water for the City of Oakland for more than a century; and

WHEREAS, Future growth in the East Bay and related public investment should be carried out in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner that does not export harm to other regions; and

WHEREAS, Senator Loni Hancock has introduced Senate Bill 1199 to designate thirty-seven miles of the Mokelumne River as a California Wild and Scenic River; and

WHEREAS, SB 1199 would protect the City of Oakland's water quality without affecting the water rights or operations of the East Bay Municipal Utility's District's Mokelumne River water facilities or a future downstream expansion of Pardee Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, By preventing new dams on the designated river sections, SB 1199 will protect American Indian sacred and cultural sites, valuable historical resources, miles of habitat suitable for salmon and steelhead restoration, important wildlife habitat, and recreational resources important to local foothill families and visitors from the East Bay alike; and

WHEREAS, The County of Calaveras supports California Wild and Scenic River designation for the Mokelumne because of the river's importance to local communities and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, SB 1199 is supported by major environmental justice, conservation, fish, business, tourism and recreation organizations; three federally recognized tribes; more than 150 foothill small businesses; and countless individuals in the foothills and East Bay alike; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City Council of Oakland, hereby endorses SB 1199 and California Wild and Scenic River designation for the Mokelumne River from below Salt Springs Dam to the upstream end of Pardee Reservoir, and urges state legislators to pass this bill and Governor Jerry Brown to sign this bill into law.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF, AND
PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California

Item #7
Rules and Management Committee
July 24, 2014

Senate Bill 1199 (Hancock): Wild and Scenic Rivers: Mokelumne River

As Amended in Senate, May 28, 2014

PURPOSE

The California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act enables certain rivers possessing extraordinary scenic, recreation, fishery, wildlife, historical, and cultural values to be preserved in their free-flowing state, together with their immediate environments, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of California.

SB 1199 would protect a portion of the Mokelumne River in Calaveras and Amador Counties in the Sierra Nevada as a Wild and Scenic River (WSR) in the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

BACKGROUND & NEED FOR THE BILL

In 1972, the California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was enacted by the legislature which provides certain legal protections for rivers included within the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Mokelumne River possesses extraordinary scenic, recreational, historical, cultural wildlife, and water-quality values of statewide significance that make it eligible for WSR designation. If included in the system, the river would join more recent additions including 31 miles of Cache Creek added in 2005 (AB 1328, Wolk) and a 39-mile stretch of the South Yuba River added in 1999 (SB 496, Sher).

The Mokelumne River begins high in the Sierra Nevada and flows west into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Mokelumne is a hard-working river with dams and diversions providing irrigation water for Central Valley farms and clean drinking water for 1.4 million people, as well as generating hydro-electricity for more than 200,000 homes. The river provides 90% of the clean drinking water for residents in the East Bay. It is a place of remarkable scenic beauty, with deep granite canyons, cascading waterfalls, and mature pine and fir forests. The river is enjoyed by local residents from Amador and Calaveras counties and tourists from throughout the state for a wide variety of activities suitable for families and adventurers alike, including swimming, picnicking, hiking, fishing, and kayaking. The river is rich in Native American cultural values and provides an outstanding example of California's Gold Rush history. Protecting the river and its recreation and tourism values helps strengthen the economies of local communities.

WSR designation would preserve a precious natural resource for present and future generations. It will protect the environment of the Mokelumne River, existing water rights and water facilities for many diverse stakeholders, prevent new dams or major water diversions while meeting local domestic water needs, and help preserve important cultural and historic resources while sustaining the area's fish and wildlife.

WHAT THIS BILL WOULD DO

SB 1199 would add 37 miles of the Mokelumne River between Salt Springs Dam and Pardee Reservoir into the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System and designate those free-flowing segments as wild, scenic, or recreational. Wild and Scenic River designation will ensure that all current uses of the river continue while protecting its free-flowing segments from new dams. Designation will not affect PG&E's hydropower operations or the delivery of water from the river to local, Central Valley or East Bay Municipal Utility District water users.

This bill will not interfere with existing water rights or facilities of the Amador Water Agency (AWA), Jackson Valley Irrigation District (JVID), Calaveras Public Utility District (CPUD), and Calaveras County Water District (CCWD). Additionally, SB 1199 will not interfere or affect in any way the application by AWA, JVID, CPUD, CCWD and consideration by the State Water Resources Control Board of water rights for future water supply projects upstream of designated river segments, so long as there is no adverse effect on the designated river segments. Finally, the bill states that it will in no way interfere with AWA's pending water rights application.

SUPPORT

FOOTHILL CONSERVANCY (CO-SPONSOR)
FRIENDS OF THE RIVER (CO-SPONSOR)
AQUALLIANCE
AMADOR COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
AMADOR EYE CARE ASSOCIATES
AMADOR OLIVE OIL
AMERICAN RIVERS
AMERICAN WHITEWATER
BLACK BEAR INN
BLUE MOUNTAIN COALITION FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

BURGER BAR
BUTTE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
CALAVERAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CALAVERAS FLY FISHERS
CALAVERAS PLANNING COALITION
CALIFORNIA COASTKEEPER
CALIFORNIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS
CALIFORNIA RURAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION
CALIFORNIA SAVE OUR STREAMS COUNCIL
CALIFORNIA SPORTFISHING PROTECTION ALLIANCE
CALIFORNIA STRIPED BASS ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA VALLEY MIWOK TRIBE
CALIFORNIA WATER IMPACT NETWORK
CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
CENTRAL SIERRA ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CENTER
CITIZENS WATER WATCH
CLEAN WATER ACTION
COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
DELTA FLY FISHERS
DESAL RESPONSE GROUP
DESTINATION ANGELS CAMP
DOKE SUSHI
EARTH LAW CENTER
EBBETT'S PASS SPORTING GOODS
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COALITION FOR WATER
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INFORMATION CENTER
FISH ON FLY GEAR
FISH SNIFFER
FOOD AND WATER WATCH
FRIENDS OF THE EEL RIVER
GALVAN REELS
GLORY HOLE SPORTS
GOIN' POSTAL
GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY
GOLDEN WEST WOMEN FLYFISHERS
INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESOURCES
JACKSON CITY COUNCIL MEMBER KEITH SWEET
JACKSON CITY COUNCIL MEMBER MARILYN LEWIS
KARMERE VINEYARDS
KARUK TRIBE
KIRK'S HYDRO
KLAMATH RIVERKEEPER
LOS PADRES FORESTWATCH
LOWER SHERMAN ISLAND DUCK CLUB
MYVALLEYSRINGS.COM
NATURAL HERITAGE INSTITUTE
NORTHCOAST ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS
O.A.R.S. COMPANIES, INC.
PACIFIC COAST FEDERATION OF FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION
PETROGLYPHE GALLERY
PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE
RESTORE THE DELTA
SACRAMENTO RIVER PRESERVATION TRUST
SAFE ALTERNATIVES FOR OUR FOREST ENVIRONMENT
SANTA CLARITA FOR PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SIERRA BUSINESS COUNCIL
SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA
SIERRA CLUB SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER
SIERRA NEVADA ADVENTURE CO., INC.
SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE
SIERRA MAC RIVER TRIPS
SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZENS LEAGUE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATERSHED ALLIANCE
SUTTER CREEK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER TIM MURPHY
TERRE ROUGE AND EASTON WINES
THE FEED BARN COUNTRY STORE
TROUT UNLIMITED
TUOLUMNE RIVER TRUST
TWISTED OAK WINERY
UPCOUNTRY NEWS
VENTANA WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
VOLCANO PRESS
WEST POINT NEWS
WINNEMEN WINTU TRIBE
ZEPHYR WHITewater EXPEDITIONS

KEY CONTACTS

RENÉE ESTOISTA, OFFICE OF SENATOR LONI HANCOCK
916-651-4009
RENEE.ESTOISTA@SEN.CA.GOV

STEVE EVANS, FRIENDS OF THE RIVER
916-708-3155
SEVANS@FRIENDSOFTHERIVER.ORG

KATHERINE EVATT, FOOTHILL CONSERVANCY
209-296-5734
KATHERINE@MOKERIVER.COM