



June 29, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-222, United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-107, United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Business for Water Stewardship (BWS), a program of the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, works hand-in-hand with businesses across the U.S. to advance solutions to ensure that our communities, economies and ecosystems have enough clean water to flourish. Working with a network of nearly 1,400 businesses across more than 15 states we promote water-smart policies and programs with consumer campaigns, on-the-ground projects and business leadership to prove that investing in water can help bolster every company's bottom line. As the West and the Colorado River system have been declared to be in a "megadrought" we must continue to work towards solutions that stabilize and ensure our water supply. The business community values rivers and clean water as they provide important benefits to our communities, employees, the environment and the economy, in addition to providing critical water supplies for cities, industry, irrigated farmland, and tribes.

An [Arizona State University study](#) shows that the economic impact of the Colorado River system is over \$1 trillion a year, supporting everything from agriculture and industry to tourism and recreation throughout seven states. In Colorado, recreation on or near rivers [contributes to the outdoor recreation economy](#) with an annual impact of nearly \$19 billion.

Federal investment and commitment to programs that benefit the Colorado River system are more important now more than ever as the country continues to address COVID-19 and its effects on our economy. **We support and encourage passage of the Moving Forward Act, H.R. 2 as it will support healthy ecosystems and create myriad economic benefits through the creation of new jobs in addition to new revenue to maintain existing jobs in local communities.** Specifically we are encouraged by the inclusion of Sections 81201—81252 (the FUTURE Drought Resiliency Subtitle) and Sections 81301— 81335, which mirrors the Western Water Security Act (H.R. 4891/S. 2718).

The FUTURE Western Water and Drought Resiliency Subtitle, primarily authored by Rep. Huffman, provides the balanced approach to providing 21st century western water infrastructure needed at this time, and will support water supply security and ecological resilience. We strongly support expanding water recycling and reuse projects across the West.

The Western Water Security Act, authored by Rep. Torres Small, would reauthorize vital programs that address the ongoing western drought, including the Cooperative Watershed Management program. H.R. 4891. This important legislation focuses on water efficiency, conservation, and emergency drought funding and will help water managers and policy leaders plan for a future that includes increasing aridification and shifts in water availability.

Water infrastructure projects are job creators. Investments to protect our rivers and safeguard them for the future does more than help the environment; they water systems are economic drivers at a time we need to put people back to work. Thank you for leadership in investing in our country's water infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Todd Reeve

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Reeve", with a stylized flourish at the end.

CEO, Bonneville Environmental Foundation  
Director, Business for Water Stewardship  
[www.businessforwater.org](http://www.businessforwater.org)