

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Elisabeth <elisabeth.parcoca2023@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 4, 2024 9:58 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Water rights for irrigation

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Hello,

I understand that water is a finite resource and appreciate the government protecting it. However, how is putting small family farmers out of business the best course of action? I'm sure the large and environmentally toxic factory farms will manage to remain in business, and even take over, and this is a problem! How about you help the small farmers to become more water efficient? How about you give them time to meet permit requirements- a fix-it ticket of sorts?

PLEASE protect public waters AND small farmers by finding solutions favorable to both. Perhaps you can look at what is already working well for other communities (or countries!) struggling with water shortages, such as here: <https://www.oecd.org/climate-action/ipac/practices/israel-s-sustainable-water-management-plans-d81db5f5/>. Or, maybe permit funding can be used to fund grants to small businesses to reduce the cost of becoming more water efficient (drip irrigation, for instance). Or whatever else you come up with-- I'm sure you are well informed and intelligent people. Please do the right thing and protect both our water and our small family farmers.

Thank you,

Elisabeth Parco