



Secretary-Watermaster  
David De Groot  
Watermaster Emeritus  
Richard L. Schafer  
Member Agencies:  
Pioneer Water Company  
Vandalia Water District  
Porterville Irrigation District  
Lower Tule River Irrigation District  
Downstream Tule & Kaweah Rivers Association

**August 16, 2022**

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McCarthy:

On behalf of the membership of the Tule River Association, we write to express our support for the Tule River Water Settlement bill, which would authorize and ratify our long-standing agreement with the Tule River Indian Tribe.

As you know, the Tule River Indian Tribe, the federal government, and local water rights holders, including the members of the Tule River Association, were involved in over twenty years of negotiations to quantify the amount of water the Tribe is entitled to divert and use. Those negotiations resulted in the 2007 Settlement Agreement, which was amended in 2009. The Tule River Association stands by the terms described in that agreement.

We encourage you to introduce the Tule Water Settlement bill so that our long-standing agreement will be ratified and put into effect.

Stable and secure water supplies are a key to the future growth of Tulare County. Settlement of the Tule River Indian Tribe water rights on the South Fork of the Tule River is a move towards such security.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David De Groot", is written over a light blue circular background.

David De Groot, Watermaster  
Tule River Association

cc: Tule River Tribal Council  
TRA Directors