

## Feinstein hosts 7 California reps in closed-door water bill talk

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Bee Washington Bureau January 27, 2015 Updated 2 hours ago



Houseboats are moored on a boat docks on the low lake levels of Pine Flat Lake Marina where evidence of California's continuing drought are apparent Monday, Jan. 26, 2015.

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The never-ending search for a California water bill showed, perhaps, a little progress Tuesday as seven Democratic House members met for over an hour with Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein. The late-morning meeting in Feinstein's third-floor Senate office was the first of its kind in the new Congress.

"It was a constructive conversation," said Rep. Jim Costa, D-Fresno.

Exactly how constructive, though, is a matter for speculation, as each of the House members exited the private meeting with their lips effectively sealed. One participant, Rep. Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael, briefly explained the group no-comment by saying that "all of us are interested in building trust."

Feinstein, in a statement, called the meeting "very helpful and productive."

"I am also meeting with individuals and members of a wide range of groups and continue to work on drafting a bill," Feinstein said.

Also participating in the meeting were Northern California Reps. Doris Matsui, John Garamendi, Mike Thompson, Sam Farr and Jerry McNerney.

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