

Reckless planting of thirsty crops drains California water tables

We are in a drought, and there always have been droughts, but the reckless continued planting of permanent water intensive crops has California in a point of no return.

If the extensive planting had been stopped, the water tables wouldn't have been depleted. Every time you see an almond or pistachio commercial, understand 20 wells are going dry. These corporate farmers are buying the politicians and don't care about the effect.

Land is sinking from over-pumping, and it won't spring back in wet years. Roads, bridges, canals and buildings will be damaged and they will expect us to pay for the damage. They want us to think it's about smelt in the Delta, but the permanent damage that will happen to everything from Sacramento to San Francisco and the result blowing south will have us paying for superfund repairs and restoration forever.

They'll destroy the ranches there. If you think your tax bills are high now, just wait. Tunnels will do more damage. Now they are trying to kill all the non-smelt and non-salmon fish in the Delta and all tributaries and lakes connecting to it. Your water is being shipped overseas. Watch out!

Morgan Swisher, Madera

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