

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

SINCE 1857

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Andrew Fecko, General Manager

February 23, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Senator Brian Dahle State Capitol, Room 2054 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Assembly Member Frank Bigelow State Capitol, Room 4158 P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0005

Assembly Member Megan Dahle State Capitol, Room 4208 P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

SUBJECT:

State Route 49 Bridge Debris Removal Project

## Dear Legislators:

I am writing on behalf of the Placer County Water Agency in support of an effort led by Protect American River Canyon (PARC) to remove the steel and concrete wreckage of the former State Route (SR) 49 Bridge that remains in the North Fork American River between the Cities of Auburn and Cool within the Auburn State Recreation Area ("Auburn SRA").

The Auburn SRA has become an enormously popular recreational destination, visited by more than one million people annually and continues to attract more visitors every year. The bridge debris located just downstream of the existing rebuilt SR 49 Bridge constitutes a public safety hazard at one of the most popular areas of the Auburn SRA known as the American River Confluence.

The Agency recognizes the Auburn SRA as a remarkable asset to Placer County, enhancing the quality of life for its residents, and boosting the county's economy. We believe it is of vital

importance that the hazardous bridge debris that endangers the safety of the many park visitors who hike, swim, and boat in its vicinity, be removed as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Andrew Fecko General Manager

c: Toks Omishakin, Director, California Department of Transportation Amarjeet S. Benipal, District 3 Director, California Department of Transportation Joshua Alpine, Board Chair, Placer County Water Agency