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From: Bill Heiney

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 9:26 AM

To: Scott White

Subject: Letter of Concern

March 16, 2018

Dear KWUA Board of Directors,

Please distribute among your membership and the general public.

2018 feels like a repeat of 2001. Our current watershed conditions are similar to 2015, but we have no allocation, no start date, and no tools to develop a water bank. I read in today's Herald and News that the Bureau is once again not going to release a start date at their next public meeting. This is unprecedented and unacceptable.

In 2015 we were extremely busy collecting bids and developing programs with water users to augment lake levels and river flows for endangered species. The Programs were a huge success. This allowed the Project irrigators to use water that historically flowed unquantified to their land. We have spent millions of dollars on projects and programs to allow all species to survive, i.e. farmers, fish, waterfowl, businesses and tribes. Now to abandon those projects & programs and circle back around to what looks like a 2001 water shut off, makes me sick.

2001 was a year when I saw many homesteader veterans lose faith in our system. A year when I saw many of my friends and neighbors go broke. A year when I lost hundreds of thousands of dollars myself, and a year when I told my kids (potential 4th generation farmers) that they would never farm. I am extremely sick of the repeat that I see coming.

Sincerely,  
Bill Heiney