



Westlands Water District

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WESTLANDS' FOOD FOR THOUGHT: THE WEEKLY REPORT ON CALIFORNIA'S BROKEN WATER SYSTEM

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Pointing the finger in the wrong direction.



Last week an [article](#) appeared blaming farmers for pumping groundwater, once again pointing the finger in the wrong direction. Let's be clear, farmers would rather NOT pump groundwater. But, farmers pump groundwater when they have no other supply available. And since Valley farmers can't count on their government to deliver the water that they are contractually entitled to, guess what happens? They go to the only other source of water available to them. If it sounds logical, it's because it is.

It would be one thing if the need to pump groundwater were a result of a lack of rainfall and snowpack. But that's certainly not the case. Instead, it's the result of operational decisions made by government agencies that have created completely avoidable chronic water shortages across the state.

And in the ultimate punch to the gut, the government's mismanagement of water resources has left everyone in a worse position, including the fish populations they claim they are trying to help.

It's time for honesty in the very worthwhile debate about how YOUR water is being prioritized.