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Troubled Water
2014 Water Consortium Conference
Saturday, May 10th Fresno City College

Report of Earth Democracy Fresno Branch Issue Group
By Jean Hays and Ann Carruthers

It has been 4 years since our last water forum in Fresno, and still, the waters are, indeed, troubled. Adding to existing problems is the simple fact that now there is less water for all our uses. Water is a hot commodity; big agri-business wants to control it, cities waste it, fracking and some farming practices poison it, and salmon can't find enough of it in which to make a home.

The Valley Water Consortium, of which WILPF's Earth Democracy Issues Group is a major partner, thought it was time for another water conference so the facts could be presented, thus clearing some of the troubled waters of misinformation. As in our last water forum in 2010 - it is still Facts vs. Fiction.

To address the many aspects of our current water problems the Consortium has put together a panel of powerful speakers and workshop leaders and we are honored to have them share their expertise with you. Members of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe, led by Chief Caleen Sisk, along with local Tribal representatives will open the conference with a ceremony outside the Fresno City College Social Science Forum Hall. Click here for the **Conference flyer**

Lunch: Conference attendees are asked to bring a brown bag lunch

Following lunch there will be two sets of workshops from which to choose. Topics range from sustainable landscaping, water and the oil companies, Tulare Lake, history of the San Joaquin River, groundwater, effects of fracking in Tulare and Kern Counties, and the effects of drought on the future of agricultural jobs

At the close of the conference, participants will be asked to write what they plan to do next to save Mother Earth's water supply. Then, we all will be photographed holding our written pledge, which will be posted on Facebook and YouTube.

Sound like a mountain of information to be taken in? Maybe, but Mother Earth needs our help! This conference happens the day before Mother's Day. Love your Mother.....help preserve water! We can't live without it!

WILPF's Earth Democracy Fresno Branch Issues Group is a lead sponsor of this Conference. We have been working collaboratively with other environmental organizations since January to plan this event. It has been a labor of love.....love of Mother Earth!

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