

MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION NO. 85-382

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING POLICY RE MERCED RIVER ISSUES AS
ADOPTED BY THE MARIPOSA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

WHEREAS, at its meeting of November 26, 1985, the Mariposa County Water Agency Board of Directors passed and adopted Water Agency Resolution No. 85-2 adopting a policy re Merced River issues, and recommended said policy to the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, and

WHEREAS, at the October 15, 1985, Mariposa County Board of Supervisors meeting in Yosemite National Park, Congressman Coelho advised of the continuing interest in the House Interior Committee's sponsoring of legislation declaring the South Fork of the Merced River, "Wild and Scenic." Congressman Coelho stated that he and the Committee would be sponsoring and supporting such legislation. The chances for its approval and adoption were excellent. His request of Mariposa County was for support for the Bill either actively or, at minimum, to not oppose the proposed action on the South Fork; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of "Wild and Scenic" designation on the South Fork could have the potential to jeopardize Mariposa's ability to use beneficially and/or impound water on the South Fork; and

WHEREAS, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors have acted to intercede with the Federal Power Commission relative to a small hydroelectric project in El Portal. The opposition to this project is based on a number of environmental, economic, and

recreational issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, that the following recommendations of the Mariposa County Water Agency Advisory Committee and the Chairman of the Water Agency are hereby supported and adopted:

1. If "Wild and Scenic" status is established on the South Fork of the Merced River, Congressman Coelho be requested to assist Mariposa County in obtaining its contractual water appropriation from any location selected by Mariposa County on either the unprotected portion of the Merced River or Lake McClure.
2. "Recreational" designation be applied under "Wild and Scenic" legislation to the main stem of the Merced River from Yosemite National Park line at El Portal to Briceburg. In the establishment of "Recreational" status on the Main River, Mariposa County must be involved to protect the interests of private property, mining interests, and permittees.
3. Because Mariposa County will still have civil and criminal responsibility for the designated areas, Mariposa County be involved in the drafting of legislation and management of the "Wild and Scenic" area.
4. Continue to oppose the Keating project at El Portal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the responsibility of

the Water Agency to provide for future unmet needs. Part of this responsibility is to protect the future potential water sources originating in Mariposa County. Both State constitutional amendments and legislation are currently being proposed to protect the rights of Counties of Origin to share in the benefits from the sources that originate in their boundaries. Mariposa County must preserve its opportunity to participate in any potential benefits for present and future citizens.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 10th day of December, 1985, by the following vote:

AYES: BARRICK, ERICKSON, RADANOVICH, TABER

NOES: NONE

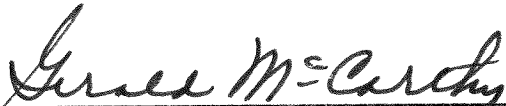
ABSENT: DALTON

ABSTAINED: NONE



BEVERLY BARRICK, Vice-Chairman
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



GERALD MC CARTHY, County Clerk and
Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



JEFFREY G. GREEN, County Counsel