

Submitter: NANCY NICHOLS
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB427

I support SB 427 which requires the state to consider potential streamflow impacts as part of the existing process for reviewing proposed water right changes. I am aware of water rights with no sign of use for years or are used at just a fraction of the right. If that right is sold to someone who takes the maximum allowed, there could be a large impact to stream flow. There is almost no monitoring of actual water use so it is unusual for a water right to be forfeited for non-use. This means ghost rights exist. Transferring them can cause large impacts to streams. Other issues could also impact stream flows so the state should consider streamflow impacts when a change in water rights is requested.