



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CCKA RELEASES TEN PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTHY & CLIMATE RESILIENT WATERWAYS

**August 19, 2020 (Sacramento, CA)** – How can California ensure climate resilient watersheds that benefit both people and nature today – and for generations to come? Today California Coastkeeper Alliance released [Ten Riparian Principles for Climate-Resilient Watersheds](#) to detail solutions-oriented actions the state needs to take now to prepare for our climate future.

“Climate change will threaten our waterways regardless of even the most ambitious efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Some threats are irreversible, which means we need to double our efforts to minimize the impacts within our control,” said California Coastkeeper Alliance Executive Director Sean Bothwell. “We’ve released these principles to detail solutions-oriented actions that the state can take now to protect California’s waterways in the face of climate change and ensure a healthy, resilient water future for California.”

Designed as a guide to take the goals and objectives of Governor Newsom’s [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) one step further, these Principles list explicit actions and policy reforms that would have a beneficial and long-lasting impact on the health of California’s watersheds, and ensure a climate-resilient water future that benefits both our communities and environment. The ten principles are:

1. Address flow impairments to promote healthy rivers and ecosystems for both humans and nature.
2. Allow rivers to meander by protecting floodplains.
3. Prohibit livestock grazing in California waterways and within riparian buffer zones.
4. Promote the biological function of California’s rivers and streams.
5. Reduce nutrient inputs to protect water quality for riparian ecosystems.
6. Promote healthy soils to improve water quality.
7. Protect California’s headwaters and historic salmon-bearing streams through improved timber harvesting management and forest restoration.
8. Deter illegal cannabis cultivation.
9. Enforce existing water rights to protect public trust resources.
10. Decrease water demand to improve flow in California’s rivers.

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**ABOUT CALIFORNIA COASTKEEPER ALLIANCE** - California Coastkeeper Alliance is a statewide voice for our waters. With the federal administration working against our environmental laws, CCKA defends and expands California’s protective legislation and strengthens the function of our State Water Board. We represent local Waterkeepers, empower communities towards a #TrashFree2030, and advocate with companies through the Blue Business Council. Together, we fight for swimmable, fishable, and drinkable waters for Californians today – and for future generations. California Coastkeeper Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. For more information, visit [cacoastkeeper.org](http://cacoastkeeper.org) and follow us on Twitter [@CA\\_Waterkeepers](https://twitter.com/CA_Waterkeepers).