



CalFed Bay-Delta Program
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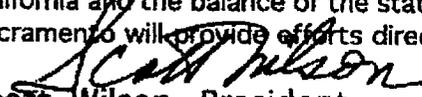
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North East Trees is a dynamic tree planting environmental education community based non profit group in north east Los Angeles dedicated to creating and caring for the Los Angeles area urban forest. The group was formed in 1993 and in the last seven years has planted and cared for over 15,000 appropriate trees, mostly native in local parks, streets, schools, along the LA River and other public spaces. We have organized volunteers, children, at risk youth, seniors, as individuals and groups to educate and practicing the numerous benefits from removing asphalt, planting trees, employing drip irrigation, mulching and related efforts.

We have dedicated ourselves to doing and teaching about doing these activities because we knew, we have learned and we have demonstrated to our community the diverse and often unexpected benefits resulting from these practices. Trees individually reduce flooding by adhesion of fifty or more gallons of water to the leaves not rushing to the sea after a rain, Trees reduce erosion by providing leafy canopy and mulch that shelter the soil from the cutting action of the driving rain and which also hold moisture reducing runoff and allowing greater infiltration. Trees moderate the winds to create a more benign human environment. Trees require water during establishment and drought periods but continually transpire moisture which creates a more pleasant ambience in our semiarid climate. Trees intercept particulate matter from the air and turn carbon dioxide into purest oxygen. Trees provide colorful flowers, fragrance, seeds and habitat for wildlife. Trees reflect sunlight and lower the temperature by providing shade. Trees substantially improve property values for individuals and communities.

Your draft document is deficient if it fails to address the multiple direct and indirect benefits to the complex issues water use, water conservation and related concerns for the present and future citizens of California. North East Trees and others will effectively reduce the importation of water to Southern California and the balance of the state by our efforts as other groups in San Francisco, Fresno and Sacramento will provide efforts directly benefiting the Bay-Delta region.


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North East Trees is a non-profit organization improving communities in Northeast Los Angeles by planting an urban forest.