

MONTHLY BRIEFING

A Summary of the Alliance’s Recent and Upcoming Activities and Important Water News
MARCH 2026 ISSUE #284

Message from the Alliance Board Chairman



Don Schwindt
Chairman of the Board

As we look across the West today, it’s hard to ignore the strain facing our farms, our water systems, and our communities—but also the strain we’re seeing in how we relate to one another. Today’s national conversations are too often framed in ways that divide rather than solve, pulling attention away from the real work that needs to get done on the ground.

For those of us in agriculture, the path forward has always depended on cooperation—neighbors helping neighbors, water users working across political boundaries, and communities coming together to solve shared challenges. That same spirit is what the Family Farm Alliance was built on. As Chairman, and a first-generation farmer from Southwest Colorado, I have found my work with the Alliance to be deeply rewarding.

At a time marked by persistent drought, uncertain snowpack, and growing pressure on rural economies, it is more important than ever that we focus on practical solutions, align policy and investment with real needs, and work collaboratively across regions and perspectives—ensuring that we “match law to science” in managing water resources.

Our mission remains rooted in education, partnership, and ensuring that family farmers, ranchers, and irrigation districts continue to be the voice that effectively tells our agriculture story. It will take all of us—working together—to meet the challenges ahead.

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Farm Bill Update:

Progress, Priorities, and the Path Forward for Western Agriculture



After months of delays and uncertainty, Congress is once again moving forward on a long-overdue five-year Farm Bill. The House Agriculture Committee recently considered the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 (H.R. 7567), marking an important step in what has been a complex and evolving legislative process. While timing and final passage remain uncertain, the direction of the bill provides meaningful insight into how federal policy may shape the future of Western agriculture.

For the Family Farm Alliance, this moment represents both an opportunity and a responsibility: to support

provisions that work, while continuing to advocate for improvements that reflect the realities of water management in the West.

Where Things Stand in Congress

Momentum around the Farm Bill has been uneven. Committee action, initially expected earlier this year, was delayed, underscoring the broader political and policy challenges facing Congress. While some funding elements for nutrition and commodity programs were addressed in prior legislation—specifically, last year’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act—this bill carries the core agricultural policy framework that producers depend on.

At the same time, bipartisan negotiations—particularly in the Senate—are ongoing, though disagreements over specific provisions and broader political dynamics could influence the bill’s ultimate path. For producers, irrigation districts, and rural communities, that uncertainty continues to complicate long-term planning.

Why This Farm Bill Matters for the West

In the Western United States, agriculture is inseparable from water. The infrastructure and watershed systems that support irrigated agriculture are aging, while pressures from prolonged drought, changing hydrology, and catastrophic wildfire continue to intensify.

“The Farm Bill is one of the most important tools we have to protect Western irrigated agriculture. If we want to keep producing food, fiber, and fuel in this country, we have to invest in the water systems that make that production possible.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

What's in the Farm Bill?

Strengthening Watershed Infrastructure through PL-566

The bill includes important updates to the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (PL-566), a cornerstone program for rural water infrastructure. Proposed changes would streamline project delivery, scale environmental reviews to project size, and expand state-level decision-making authority. These reforms are a welcome step toward making the program more responsive and accessible—particularly for smaller, locally driven projects that are often critical in Western watersheds.

Expanding the Reach of RCPP

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) continues to evolve into a key tool for addressing large-scale water challenges. The bill broadens its focus to include drought resilience, groundwater protection, and drinking water supply—priorities that align closely with Western needs. RCPP's partnership-driven model allows irrigation districts, conservation groups, and producers to collaborate on basin-scale solutions, making it one of the most promising vehicles for integrated water management.



Investing in On-Farm Efficiency (EQIP)

Enhancements to the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), including higher cost-share rates and expanded support for precision agriculture, could accelerate adoption of water-saving technologies. For producers facing tightening water supplies, these investments are not just conservation measures—they are essential tools for staying in business.

Addressing Forest and Watershed Health

The Forestry title also takes meaningful steps forward by expanding authorities for wildfire mitigation, hazardous fuels reduction, and cross-boundary restoration. These efforts are critical in protecting headwaters and reducing the downstream impacts of catastrophic wildfire on water supply and infrastructure.

Opportunities for Improvement

While the bill includes many positive elements, there is still room to strengthen its impact—particularly for Western water management.

Increasing Investment in Water Infrastructure

Demand for conservation and watershed programs consistently exceeds available funding. The Alliance continues to emphasize that funding levels must match the scale of need.

“Across the West, we are managing systems that were built generations ago. This is our opportunity to modernize that infrastructure in a way that improves efficiency, strengthens resilience, and supports rural economies. But we need funding levels that reflect that reality.”
— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

Revamping and Modernizing PL-566

Further improvements to PL-566 could enhance its effectiveness, including raising outdated cost thresholds, prioritizing drought resilience alongside flood control, and ensuring regional balance in project selection. Streamlining the approval process even further would help move critical projects from planning to construction more quickly.

Making RCPP More User-Friendly

Despite its potential, RCPP's complexity can limit participation. Simplifying program administration and clarifying implementation of Alternative Financing Arrangements (AFAs) would unlock new opportunities for innovation—especially as local partners take on a larger role in project delivery.



Creating a Coordinated Drought Response

One of the most significant opportunities lies in creating a dedicated drought planning focus within USDA. Such an approach would allow multiple programs—PL-566, EQIP, RCPP, and others—to be coordinated into comprehensive, watershed-scale solutions rather than fragmented efforts. This type of flexibility would better reflect how drought actually impacts agricultural systems across the West, and would also complement the ongoing “One Farmer, One File” system of data and records management USDA is implementing.

Enhancing CREP Flexibility

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) has proven effective in addressing water challenges, but additional flexibility—such as allowing limited agricultural production on enrolled lands for purposes of cover cropping or deficit irrigation—could improve participation while maintaining conservation benefits.

Supporting Local USDA Capacity

Finally, successful implementation depends on the people delivering these programs. Ensuring adequate staffing and resources for local NRCS and Farm Service Agency offices, along with timely technical assistance, will be essential to translating policy into on-the-ground results.

Looking Ahead

As the Farm Bill continues to move through Congress, much remains uncertain. However, the current draft reflects growing recognition of the challenges facing Western agriculture—and the importance of addressing them through thoughtful federal policy. The Alliance will continue working with lawmakers to advance practical, durable solutions that keep water flowing, farms productive, and rural communities strong.

“This legislation doesn’t just set policy—it sets the trajectory for rural communities across the West. We have a responsibility to get it right.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

Senate ENR Hearing Focuses on Drought and Western Water Infrastructure

Water policy took center stage in Washington this week as the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power convened a legislative hearing on a broad package of bills aimed at addressing drought and strengthening water infrastructure across the West. The hearing comes at a critical moment, as Western states continue to grapple with persistent drought conditions and ongoing negotiations over long-term management of the Colorado River system.

A Broad Legislative Package

The Subcommittee considered a diverse set of proposals spanning nearly every aspect of water management. The legislation under review includes measures to expand surface and groundwater storage, modernize aging water delivery systems, and improve tools for forecasting and managing water supply.

Other bills focus on increasing investment in water recycling and reuse, advancing agricultural water conservation efforts, and supporting small-scale storage and aquifer recharge projects. Hydropower also featured prominently, with proposals aimed at improving system reliability, increasing transparency in licensing, and exploring new technologies such as micro-hydrokinetic energy.



In addition, lawmakers examined legislation to enhance snowpack monitoring and forecasting, authorize feasibility studies for major water supply projects, and establish new mechanisms to help local communities navigate federal funding opportunities.

Drought Dominates the Discussion

While the legislative agenda was broad, the underlying theme of the hearing was clear: drought continues to shape water policy across the West. Senators from multiple states highlighted the growing strain on water supplies, agricultural production, and rural communities.

The discussion reflected a shared recognition that no single solution will resolve these challenges. Instead, the conversation increasingly pointed toward the need for integrated strategies that combine storage, conservation, recycling, conveyance improvements, and watershed management.

Alliance Testimony Highlights Practical Solutions

The Family Farm Alliance submitted detailed written testimony for the hearing, outlining support for a wide range of legislative proposals while emphasizing the need for policies that translate into real, on-the-ground improvements for agricultural water users.

Central to the Alliance's message is the importance of maintaining a balanced and diversified water management portfolio. That includes continued investment in storage—both large and small—alongside conveyance infrastructure, water recycling, conservation, and hydropower.

The testimony supports efforts to reauthorize and expand key programs that improve water supply reliability, including legislation to enhance small-scale storage and groundwater recharge projects. The Alliance also expressed strong support for legislation to extend and improve snowpack forecasting programs, noting that more accurate data and modeling are essential for making timely water management decisions in an increasingly variable climate.

Infrastructure, Modernization, and Reliability

A consistent theme throughout the Alliance’s testimony is the urgent need to modernize aging water infrastructure. Many irrigation systems and conveyance facilities across the West were built decades ago and require significant upgrades to remain safe, efficient, and reliable.

Legislation aimed at improving canals, expanding conveyance capacity, and reducing water losses was highlighted as a particularly effective way to increase available water supplies without developing entirely new sources. The Alliance also underscored the importance of hydropower as a critical component of the Western water system.

Supporting Innovation—While Keeping Programs Practical

While expressing support for many of the bills under consideration, the Alliance also offered recommendations to ensure that new and existing programs remain workable and accessible. Our testimony encouraged Congress to simplify program requirements, avoid overly prescriptive frameworks, and maintain flexibility so that projects can be tailored to local conditions.

The Alliance also highlighted the need to prioritize funding for proven strategies—such as irrigation modernization and infrastructure upgrades—while carefully evaluating newer or less-tested approaches. That said, we encourage decision-makers to constantly consider the “all of the above” approach to resolving our aging infrastructure and aridification problem in the West.

The Need for Scale and Coordination

Perhaps the most significant takeaway from both the hearing and the Alliance’s testimony is the scale of the challenge facing Western water systems. Addressing drought and long-term water reliability will require investment levels and policy coordination that match the magnitude of the problem.

Rather than pursuing fragmented or isolated efforts, the Alliance continues to advocate for a more integrated approach—one that brings together multiple funding streams and program authorities to deliver comprehensive, watershed-scale solutions.

Looking Ahead

The Subcommittee’s work on this legislative package is expected to continue in the coming weeks. While the path forward for individual bills remains uncertain, the hearing marks an important step in advancing policies that directly impact Western agriculture and rural communities. The Alliance will continue working with lawmakers to advance practical solutions that strengthen water resilience, support food production, and sustain the communities that depend on both.



Executive Director Sam Barncastle (far right) with Arizona’s Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association and Agribusiness and Water Council Representatives

Columbia and Snake River Litigation Resumes Amid Broader Debate Over ESA and Western Water Management



Samantha Barncastle with Board member Clinton Pline at the Sanke River Tour in 2025

Longstanding disputes over the operation of federal dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers have taken center stage, as tribes, states, and conservation groups return to court seeking changes they argue are necessary to protect endangered salmon and steelhead. The renewed litigation follows the collapse of a 2023 multi-stakeholder agreement and reflects a broader, West-wide reckoning over how the Endangered Species Act is applied in an era of prolonged drought, changing hydrology, and competing demands for water and power.

At the heart of the case are eight federally operated dams that play a critical role in hydropower generation, navigation, irrigation, and regional economies throughout the Pacific Northwest. Plaintiffs—including Northwest tribes, the states of Oregon and Washington, and several conservation organizations—argue that current dam operations continue to harm fish populations in violation of the ESA.

On February 25, 2026, U.S. District Judge Michael H. Simon issued a partial preliminary injunction, ordering federal dam operators to maintain reservoir levels similar to 2025 conditions and increase spill during key migration periods. While the ruling stops short of mandating more sweeping changes sought by plaintiffs, it represents a significant development in a case that has spanned decades and multiple presidential administrations.

The litigation resumed after the Trump Administration withdrew from a 2023 agreement negotiated under the Biden Administration, which had paused court proceedings in favor of a collaborative framework. That agreement included a proposed \$1 billion federal commitment toward salmon recovery efforts, as well as funding for studies related to dam removal, energy replacement, and tribal clean energy development. With that framework now dissolved, parties have returned to the courts.

Federal officials have expressed concern that operational changes sought by plaintiffs could have far-reaching impacts. Reduced hydropower generation, increased electricity costs, and disruptions to navigation and irrigation

deliveries are all cited as potential consequences. Even more worrisome is the idea that the less economically beneficial these dams remain, the more likely we are to see increased calls for their removal.

From the Family Farm Alliance perspective, the renewed litigation highlights a persistent challenge in Western water management: the increasing reliance on courts to resolve highly complex, multi-interest disputes. While litigation can provide clarity and enforce statutory requirements, it often results in outcomes that prioritize a narrow set of objectives without fully accounting for the interconnected needs of rural communities, agricultural producers, and regional economies.

This dynamic is not unique to the Columbia Basin. Similar tensions are playing out across the West, including in the Klamath River Basin, where federal agencies are in the process of rewriting ESA-related rules governing water use, species protections, and operational criteria.

Across multiple basins—including the Columbia, Klamath, Sacramento-San Joaquin, and Colorado River systems—stakeholders are grappling with the same fundamental question: how to balance species recovery with the needs of agriculture, communities, and infrastructure in a time of increasing scarcity. Conservation groups caution against weakening environmental protections, while water users argue that rigid, outdated frameworks often force crisis-driven decisions that benefit neither fish nor people in the long term.

In the Klamath Basin, emerging legislative efforts aimed at improving consultation requirements between federal agencies and local irrigation districts signal a potential path forward. These proposals would formalize processes that ensure affected water users have a seat at the table when operational decisions are made—an approach that many in the West believe should be standard practice across all basins.

For the Alliance and its partners in the Pacific Northwest, the immediate focus is on engagement—working to ensure that decision-makers fully understand the range of benefits these river systems provide. The Columbia and Snake rivers are not only critical for fish and ecosystems, but also for irrigation, food production, hydropower, and rural livelihoods.

Ultimately, the current moment underscores the need for durable, collaborative solutions. While litigation may continue to shape outcomes in the near term, long-term success will depend on the willingness of stakeholders to come together, acknowledge competing needs, and develop strategies that work across sectors. The Alliance will continue advocating for balanced approaches that recognize both the importance of species recovery and the essential role of working landscapes in sustaining the West.

Southwest Ag Summit Highlights Water, Policy, and Partnerships in Yuma, Arizona

The Family Farm Alliance was on the ground in Yuma, Arizona this past month for the annual Southwest Ag Summit, where water, technology, infrastructure, and the future of Western agriculture took center stage. The event brought together producers, policymakers, and agency leaders to discuss the challenges facing agriculture in one of the most productive regions in the country—and to reinforce the importance of aligning policy with on-the-ground realities.

Engagement with USDA Leadership

A key component of the visit included meetings with Richard Fordyce, USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation to discuss the Colorado River, the needs of Western irrigated agriculture, and USDA's evolving workload. Conversations also touched on implementation of the "One Farmer One File" initiative, which aims to streamline how producers interact with USDA programs.

These discussions provided an important opportunity to share the perspective of Western producers and irrigation districts, and to highlight the importance of ensuring that federal programs remain practical, accessible, and responsive to real-world conditions. Engagement like this remains a core part of the Alliance's mission—helping

ensure that national policymakers and agency leadership understand the unique challenges facing irrigated agriculture in the West.

Colorado River and Arizona Water Updates



Undersecretary of USDA, William Fordyce, with Sam Barncastle, Meghan Scott, and Stephanie Knight-Dubien in Yuma, Arizona

At the Summit, water leaders from across Arizona—including representatives from the Arizona Department of Water Resources and Central Arizona Project—provided updates on Colorado River conditions and the state’s preparations for continued shortages. Presentations underscored the seriousness of current hydrologic conditions, ongoing planning efforts within Arizona, and the broader uncertainty surrounding interstate negotiations on the future of the river.

The on-farm technology showcased during the field trials on the first day were diverse and impactful, offering a host of solutions to farmers who are looking to modernize their technological infrastructure. These conversations reinforced the need for continued collaboration across basin states,

as well as the importance of federal policies that support flexible, locally driven solutions.

Senator Gallego and the Storage Reauthorization Act

The Summit also provided an opportunity to engage directly with United States Senator Ruben Gallego on legislation critical to the region’s water future. The Family Farm Alliance has been actively supporting Senator Gallego’s Storage Reauthorization Act, which advances meaningful improvements to federal water storage programs.

The bill would expand eligibility for groundwater recharge projects, support both surface and groundwater storage, and ensure that projects moving water to and from storage sites are included—all while maintaining strong protections for state water rights. These provisions are designed to make it easier for local water managers and producers to partner with the federal government on practical, cost-effective projects that enhance drought resilience.

The Alliance has also emphasized the importance of fully reauthorizing and sustaining these programs over the long term, noting that water storage and conveyance infrastructure projects often take decades to plan and build.

Harvest Festival Banquet

The events concluded with the Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association’s annual harvest festival banquet—an event that serves as both a celebration of the season and a key opportunity to bring together farmers, policymakers, and agency officials. These informal settings often provide some of the most productive conversations, helping bridge the gap

between policy and practice. Hats off to those farmers and their families who put together a wonderful evening for all who attended!

Taken together, the Summit and surrounding meetings and social events underscored the importance of continued education and engagement with federal leaders. The Alliance appreciates the time and attention given by both Under Secretary Fordyce and Senator Gallego and looks forward to continued collaboration to advance solutions that support water reliability, agricultural productivity, and the long-term success of rural communities across the West.



Sam Barncastle and her husband Rett at the Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association Annual Harvest Banquet in Yuma, AZ

USDA Engagement Highlights Urgent Need for Clarity on Water Efficiency Funding

Following the Southwest Ag Summit in Yuma, the Family Farm Alliance continued its advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C., meeting directly with officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture to discuss the status of the Ag Water Commodities Savings Grant program. The program, which allocated approximately \$15 million to 18 irrigation districts across the West, was designed to fund critical system improvements that help conserve water and sustain agricultural production during ongoing drought conditions.

Despite signed agreements and strong local support, those funds have not yet been released. Recent reporting has also highlighted broader concerns, noting that hundreds of millions of dollars in congressionally authorized drought assistance remain undistributed, with limited explanation from USDA. USDA officials have raised questions about the structure and intent of the program, including how funds were awarded and how benefits reach producers.



While questions remain about the delay, the Alliance continues to engage with USDA leadership, industry partners, and congressional offices to advocate for clarity and resolution. If the funds can be released, they will provide immediate, on-the-ground benefits to producers and communities. If not, it is critical that stakeholders receive clear guidance so alternative solutions can be pursued. In either case, the need for timely investment in water efficiency and infrastructure has never been more urgent.

The Alliance Bottom Line

At the heart of the issue is a fundamental disconnect: while USDA programs have traditionally focused on direct payments to farmers, many of these grants were designed to fund irrigation system improvements—projects that strengthen water delivery and efficiency at a system level. In the West, supporting agriculture often means supporting the infrastructure that delivers water to the farm gate. Without reliable water delivery, there is no production.

On the Ground at the Colorado River: A System Under Strain—and a Call for Collaboration

The Colorado River was front and center this month as Family Farm Alliance Executive Director Samantha Barncastle joined water leaders from across the West on a multi-day tour of key infrastructure and communities that depend on the river system. The tour, which spanned major facilities from Hoover Dam to agricultural and municipal delivery systems in the Lower Basin, offered a firsthand look at both the scale of the system—and the growing challenges it faces.



Participants represented a wide range of backgrounds, including municipal water providers, federal and state agencies, non-profits, and policy professionals. Much of the tour focused on the vast network of infrastructure that makes life in the arid West possible, highlighting the complexity of storing, moving, and managing water across hundreds of miles and multiple states. reduce agricultural production to free up water for other uses.

“We heard a lot about fallowing as a solution, but very little about what that means for the communities that depend on that land staying in production. That’s a conversation we’ll continue to engage in to ensure all needs are balanced.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

A Worsening Hydrologic Outlook



The tour came at a time of increasing concern about the river’s hydrology. Federal forecasts released earlier this year significantly reduced projections for runoff into Lake Powell, with expected inflows now estimated at roughly half of average conditions—down sharply from already pessimistic projections.

Low snowpack and warmer-than-normal temperatures are driving the decline, raising the possibility that reservoir levels could approach critical thresholds sooner than anticipated. Such conditions threaten not only water deliveries but also hydropower

generation at Glen Canyon Dam, a key component of the region’s energy and water management system. Even worse, lower water levels can present structural problems with the infrastructure itself, which is not designed to be empty.

Negotiations Stall as Deadlines Pass

Compounding these challenges, negotiations among the seven Colorado River Basin states over post-2026 operating rules recently missed a key federal deadline, underscoring the deep divisions that remain. The lack of agreement has prompted the Department of the Interior to move forward with a federal process to establish new guidelines, signaling that action will continue even in the absence of consensus.

“What stood out to me is how little margin for error there is right now. The system is being pushed to its limits, and that raises the stakes for every decision being made.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

Deputy Commissioner for Operations, David Palumbo, testified before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee this week, stating that while the federal government stands ready to operate the river in accordance with the Law of the River, it is still hopeful state consensus can be reached.

“There’s a shared understanding across the basin states that the federal proposed alternatives in the recent Draft EIS are not going to make anyone happy. That could be the starting point for something more productive.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

Notably, feedback on the federal government’s draft operational proposals revealed a rare point of agreement: broad dissatisfaction across states and stakeholders with any of the proposed alternatives.

Learning Through the Water Leaders Program

Barncastle’s participation in the tour is part of her selection to the Water Education Foundation’s Colorado River Water Leaders cohort, a program that brings together a small group of professionals from across the basin to deepen understanding of the river and develop policy solutions. As part of the program, the cohort will develop a policy paper focused on the concept of Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) in Lake Powell.

“This program is a valuable opportunity to bring different perspectives together and really dig into complex issues. The challenge is making sure the solutions we develop are practical and actually work for the people on the ground.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

A System That Demands Balance

One of the clearest takeaways from the tour is the need for a balanced, system-wide approach to water management.

“We can’t solve this by focusing on one sector or one state at a time. It’s going to take a coordinated approach that keeps agriculture viable while meeting the needs of a growing region.”

— Samantha Barncastle, Executive Director

The Colorado River does not serve a single purpose or constituency—it supports cities, farms, ecosystems, and energy production across the West. Efforts to address shortages must therefore consider the full range of impacts, particularly on agricultural communities that rely on consistent and reliable water supplies.

Looking Ahead

Despite the challenges, there are signs of cautious optimism. Shifting weather patterns in recent weeks may bring additional precipitation to parts of the West, offering some short-term relief. More importantly, the ongoing engagement of stakeholders across sectors and states reflects a shared understanding of what is at stake.

Experiences like this tour highlight both the urgency of the situation and the opportunities that exist when people come together to better understand the system and each other’s perspectives. As discussions continue around the future of the Colorado River, that kind of engagement will be essential to developing solutions that are durable, equitable, and grounded in the realities of the West.

Boots on the Ground:

Advancing Collaboration and Education Across the West



The Family Farm Alliance is continuing to build momentum behind its “Boots on the Ground” initiative—an effort grounded in a simple but powerful idea: the best solutions come from the ground up. As conversations around Western water and agriculture grow louder, we are committed to ensuring those discussions are informed by real-

world experience, practical knowledge, and the voices of the farmers, ranchers, and water managers who live these challenges every day.

In the months ahead, the Alliance will be expanding its presence across the West—participating in tours, public events, and community conversations, while also engaging in programs like Ag in the Classroom to help connect broader audiences with the realities of modern agriculture. These efforts are already being strengthened through collaboration with partners who share our commitment to balanced, fact-based dialogue around water, food production, and rural economies.



This work is also being guided by a new strategic initiative approved by the Board, focused on elevating the role of Western irrigated agriculture and strengthening how we communicate its value—not only in Washington, D.C., but across the communities and regions we serve. At its core, this approach emphasizes the importance of aligning policy with on-the-ground realities, where law and science meet at the ditch bank and where decisions have real consequences for people, crops, and communities.

At a time of continued drought, infrastructure challenges, and growing public scrutiny, this kind of engagement is more important than ever. The Alliance will continue developing this path forward in close coordination with our

members and partners, ensuring that our work reflects the needs and priorities of those we represent.

We're also excited to expand our team this summer with a new group of interns, who will play a key role in helping tell these stories and support our efforts in the field—stay tuned for introductions in next month's newsletter!

Thanks for being a reader and a part of our effort to expand the reach of our collective voices.

What's The Secret to our Success? Grassroots Members Like You

Join our membership of agricultural producers, agribusiness, water purveyors, supporting industries, local governments, and community members. Your membership will strengthen our advocacy and connect you to cutting-edge research, analysis, and insight on the policies impacting **agricultural water**.

We encourage you to visit the **RESOURCES** page on our website: www.familyfarmalliance.org to view Reports, Insightful Monthly Briefings and Information Water Reviews. We believe our accomplishments and activities speak for themselves. While you're there, join our email list to be kept up-to-date on our efforts on your behalf.



LEARN MORE 

Defending Western Irrigated Agriculture

The Family Farm Alliance is a powerful advocate for family farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts, and allied industries in seventeen Western states. The Alliance is a focused organization. **Everything we do supports one mission — to ensure the availability of reliable and affordable irrigation water supplies to Western farmers and ranchers.**