

Floor Statement of Rep. Jerry McNerney
Safe Climate Caucus
June 5, 2013

Mr. Speaker,

I rise today to bring attention to a recent UC Davis study on some effects climate change will have in California. This report looks at habitat and temperature sensitivities for fish species within the state.

California has a diverse and robust ecosystem, as well as the largest estuary in the western hemisphere, namely the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta and its tributaries are home to an amazing variety of native species that must be protected.

The study found that of 121 native fish species in California, more than 80% will be critically endangered as a result of climate change. At the same time, non-native or invasive species will survive at a much higher rate.

We must take action now to address climate change, which is starting to affect every aspect of our daily lives, including our water quality, flood risk, more severe weather, including hurricanes, tornados and droughts, and the extinction of native species.

The destruction posed by climate change to the natural resources we depend on for our daily sustenance is too great.

Global warming is here, it's dangerous, and we need to take action now. The longer we wait, the more difficult and costly the fixes will be, and the more our fellow human beings across the world will suffer.

I yield back.