

So as farmers do—I am a farmer; I get it—we go out and start the process of planting; tilling the ground; ordering up your fertilizer and your seed; applying the fertilizer; and then, finally, seeding the ground.

Well, lo and behold, a few weeks later, it was decided to release 50,000 acre-feet from that lake in order to help suppress a virus farther down the Klamath River called the C. shasta, which is supposed to be harmful to the coho salmon, a fish that is deemed endangered on the Klamath, yet not endangered in other areas of the country.

Right on the heels of the end of that 50,000 acre-foot release for C. shasta virus for coho salmon, it was decided that there is now not enough water in the lake. The incoming water supply was misestimated.

They were told they were going to have to cut back from the original 140,000 acre-feet. They were going to cut back approximately 60,000 acre-feet of that, leaving them with about 80,000 acre-feet for the entire season. This is crops already spent, the cost already incurred to be put in the ground.

The water supply is estimated to last until approximately June 15. From June 16 to September, they are going to be in a very dire way. They are going to be out of water, with the investment in the ground.

As devastating as 2001 was, this will break many farms up in the Klamath Basin. Unique crops they grow up there—mint, radishes, potatoes, many others—as well as the refuge that sits at the far end of that system that needs the water to flow through those irrigation districts so we will have a duck population, so we will have other wildlife that is extremely important not only for the area but for the entire State of California and the West Coast.

This duck population is going to be devastated. Just recently, when they had good water, they had a huge number of ducks hatch, and we had a good population. That is going to be devastated.

Farming is the only major economic industry, really, in the region, other than some tourism. There are about 12,000 farms in that Klamath Basin. Approximately \$75 million has been spent putting those crops in. It is thought, as it is being estimated right now, the total effect on the region, if this water is taken away and not restored by somewhere around June 15, \$200 to \$300 million more is coming out of that area. We have created a crisis up there.

This water, by law, belongs to the irrigators, not to the Endangered Species Act, not to a Federal agency. The irrigators themselves spend \$30 million a year to maintain and operate, if it is actually operating, the project. They still have to pay that bill.

But the Endangered Species Act is being interpreted to require water that doesn't belong to the government to be taken and given either to keep the lake fuller for the sucker fish or run downstream in order to allegedly help the

coho salmon. There are science and arguments out there that this doesn't help those two species, yet we continue down this blind path, doing it year after year after year, for at least 20 years.

At this point, with the uncertainty of our Nation's food supply, from the farm gate to the markets, this is what we have going on with farmers up there, having their property rights taken. We must do better. We must take immediate action.

GIVE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FUNDS TO CONDUCT TESTING, CONTACT TRACING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, for the last 3 months, tens of millions of our fellow Americans have chosen to make painful sacrifices to keep one another safe.

They made that choice before any Governor of any State told them they had to. They did what they thought was right, what was decent, what was responsible. Overwhelmingly, the American people still believe that social distancing to protect our neighbors is the right thing to do even where States have lifted stay-at-home orders.

You wouldn't know this by watching the news because the news dwells on conflict, not consensus. The loudest voices say: "Reopen everything now. Yes, people will die, but people die of car crashes, of cancer, of heart disease. We don't stay home for that." The angriest voices say: "Go to the grocery store. Throw off your mask. Make them call the police." They pretend to be brave. They shout childish slogans about liberty, as if liberty meant the right to endanger the lives of others for our own convenience.

On social media, there is an effort to make everything about this pandemic partisan; as if whether you are a Democrat or Republican should determine what medicines you should take or whether you should wear a mask.

I have been to plenty of countries where everything is made to be political, where everything is made to be tribal. I never thought I would see people in the United States of America trying to make our country like that.

But, Mr. Speaker, America is not like that. The vast majority of Republicans and Democrats still say that of course we should do what is needed to protect others. We are still a country that cares whether people live or die more than we care about the stock market.

In New Jersey this year, we have had 177 road fatalities. Thus far, we have lost more than 11,000 people to the coronavirus, and that number would be vastly higher if not for the lockdowns.

Now, nobody is rushing to our State capital with guns, screaming to keep the economy closed. No one ever loudly clamors for shared sacrifice. But the quiet majority still say that we should

put public health first. The vast majority still want to be sure that we have to do this only once, and therefore, we have to do it right.

So, yes, I get a lot of questions back home about when things are going to reopen. But the most urgent question I get is not when do we reopen, but: How are you going to help us safely reopen? What are you doing about that?

Right now, the only responsible answer is that we must vastly expand contact tracing and testing for the coronavirus so that people can go back to normal life, knowing it is safe.

Unfortunately, the administration's plan for testing, which we just received, basically states to the States around our country: We will give you some supplies, but otherwise, you are on your own.

It is a shameful abdication of responsibility. At this point, I am done with expecting better from our President. We are on our own in New Jersey, in Michigan, in Ohio, in California.

So, let's at least give our State and local governments the resources they need to bear this burden that our national government will not.

The HEROES Act would provide \$75 billion to help our States conduct the testing and contact tracing that we need if we want to go back to work and school safely. The HEROES Act also provides the funding our State and local governments have been pleading for to make up for revenues lost because of coronavirus.

Mr. Speaker, in my district, I represent 75 small towns. We have more Republican mayors in those towns than Democrats, but this is not partisan in my district. Every one of them would rather spend money to pay our cops, our firefighters, and our teachers to do their jobs than spend money to pay for their unemployment.

My message to those who are stepping down from responsibility is at least help us to help those who are stepping up. You want to go to the beach, to a ball game? You want to hold political rallies? Fine, so do I. Help the people who are risking their lives to make it safer for us to do those things. Help the people who are working, who never stopped working, to give us liberty without giving us death.

That is what the HEROES Act does. If the Senate has a better plan, then let's hear it; let's negotiate; let's find our common ground. Otherwise, let's send it to the President and get this job done.

HIGHLIGHTING THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to bring attention to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, otherwise known as the LWCF.

Families across the Lowcountry are turning to green spaces to cope during