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SYRCL Named “Yuba River Waterkeeper” Newest Waterkeeper Alliance Member, First in the Sierra

Nevada City, CA (3/17/16) – The Waterkeeper Alliance Board of Directors approved the Yuba River Waterkeeper as a new member of the Waterkeeper Alliance on January 8, 2016. Caleb Dardick, the Executive Director of the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL), will serve as the newly appointed Waterkeeper and will work to protect and restore the Yuba River by combining his firsthand knowledge of the watershed with an unwavering commitment to the rights of the community and to the rule of law.

“Waterkeeper Alliance is thrilled to have the Yuba River Waterkeeper be the eyes, ears, and voice for this vital watershed,” said Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Waterkeeper Alliance President. “Caleb Dardick is the right leader to fight for clean water in the region.”

“We are pleased to welcome SYRCL as the latest member of the Waterkeeper Alliance and the first Waterkeeper established in the Sierra Nevada,” said Pete Nichols, Waterkeeper Alliance’s National Director.

SYRCL established the Yuba River Waterkeeper as a new program dedicated to fostering regional and statewide coalitions to address complex issues related to water quality and watershed health including the restoration of wild salmon. “Yuba River Waterkeeper’s aim is to combine SYRCL’s 33-year record of strong local, grassroots advocacy with the power of the Waterkeeper Alliance, an international coalition of river advocates,” said Caleb Dardick.

“The Yuba River Waterkeeper will have a big job. Waterkeepers defend their communities against anyone who threatens their right to clean water-- from law-breaking polluters to irresponsible governments,” stated Marc Yaggi, Executive Director, Waterkeeper Alliance. “We need to stand up with grassroots advocates like Yuba River Waterkeepers and fight for our right to clean water.”

About Waterkeeper Alliance: Waterkeeper Alliance is a global movement uniting more than 270 Waterkeeper Organizations in 34 countries and focusing citizen advocacy on the issues that affect our waterways, from pollution to climate change. Waterkeepers patrol more than 2.3 million square miles of rivers, streams and coastlines in the Americas, Europe, Australia, Asia and Africa. Waterkeeper Alliance was founded in 1999 by veteran Waterkeepers and Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Learn more at: www.waterkeeper.org or follow @Waterkeeper on Twitter and Facebook.

About the SYRCL: The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL, pronounced “circle”) is the leading voice for the protection and restoration of the Yuba River watershed. Founded in 1983 through a rural, grassroots campaign to defend the South Yuba River from proposed hydropower dams, SYRCL has developed into a vibrant community organization with over 3,500 members and volunteers based in Nevada City, CA. See: www.yubariver.org