

## Order conditionally approving BOR/DWR February March TUCP

Richard Morat <rjmorat@gmail.com>

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To: Williams, Craig@Waterboards <Craig.Williams@Waterboards.ca.gov>

**EXTERNAL:**

This email is about my view on government agencies destroying the public's confidence in government.

I am writing not about what the Board did, but HOW the Board did it.

In the Board's Notice of the order they referred to and claimed in writing: "February 23, 2023 - CDFW Letter to SWRCB identifying no unreasonable impacts to fish and wildlife from the TUCP".

I read the CDFW letter and I don't see them making that underlined claim. I took a highlighter and highlighted all that the CDFW stated. and the CDFW said very little. Mostly they repeated what the petitioners and the Governor said. What they wrote was "CDFW agrees with the DWR and Reclamation's assessment that impacts to fish and wildlife resources from the proposed changes would be no more than incremental, and we do not have additional information to add to this biological assessment." If "incremental" means "not unreasonable" we are all in trouble. CDFW wisely and appropriately avoided making that balancing call. All I can picture is Brooke Jacob holding her nose while signing that letter.

More transparency would have been in order. The CDFW position and reputation were smudged.

Public confidence in the State and the Board's administration of water resources continues to be damaged.

I share this in hopes of being constructive and moving the societal response to our challenges forward.

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postscript: I objected to the Petition for urgency change. I asked for one thing:

### "Attachment 2

#### **R. Morat Objection to BOR/DWR 2023 Temporary Urgency Change Petition Regarding Delta Water Quality, to Waive the Delta Outflow Requirement Listed for Port Chicago during February and March 2023**

1) Any Board Order approving this petition include a quantified assessment of the harm this 2-month waiving of the Port Chicago outflow requirement will bring to Delta smelt, all races of salmon, steelhead trout, green and white sturgeon, and longfin smelt."