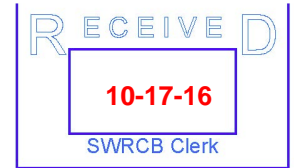


commentletters

From: Chris Gilbert <chris@gilbertbiz.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 2:33 PM
To: commentletters
Subject: Comment Letter - 2016 Bay Delta Plan Amendment & SED



Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Board Members,

Whereas:

- Scientific evidence points to the Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers needing 60% of water flows to remain and flow into the Delta and SF Bay Estuary.
- A recent Bay Institute report describes the negative impacts of the lack of fresh water flows throughout the SF Bay Estuary and as far as the Farallones Islands! ("San Francisco Bay: The Freshwater-Starved Estuary, How Water Flowing to the Ocean Sustains California's Greatest Aquatic Ecosystem", the Bay Institute, Sept 2016)
- There are many documented ways to further conserve water in both urban and agricultural settings, by recycling, installing water saving devices, changing landscaping, etc.
- A recent report documents how new un-irrigated land is being cultivated for water-intensive crops in the San Joaquin Valley, in spite of the drought and water conservation imperatives.
(<http://www.forbes.com/sites/mallorypickett/2016/09/28/satellite-images-reveal-impact-of-almond-boom/#2735f74c550d>)
- Federal and State law dictates that wildlife and the environment in the San Joaquin Valley and the Delta be kept healthy.

Because of the above and additional reasons, I request that flows be increased to the full 60% required. If necessary, agricultural lands should be fallowed, ideally with compensation.

With regards,
Chris Gilbert
1797 Madera St
Berkeley, CA 94707