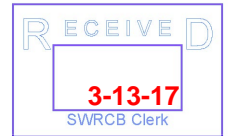


From: Heinrich Albert
To: [commentletters](#)
Subject: Comment letter--2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment and SED
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 1:36:34 PM



13 March 2017

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: PROPOSED SAN JOAQUIN RIVER INFLOW REQUIREMENTS
TO RESTORE FISHERIES AND WATER QUALITY IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY ESTUARY

Dear Board members,

I'm a resident of Alameda CA. The environmental health of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary is a key part of quality of life for me. Additionally I have a deep love for the rivers of the Sierra which I enjoy on foot and from my kayak. Our rivers are truly central to my appreciation of our state.

I want to **urge you implement the 60% of unimpaired flows** your own science reports says will be necessary to restore the ecosystems in the major San Joaquin tributaries. I understand you have to balance human and environmental needs for water, and therefore propose only 40%, and only for the critical months of Feb through June. I also understand you have proposed "adaptive management" so that flow requirements can be adjusted if biological indicators show the 40% level is inadequate. If you implement 40% as the starting point, I ask that you put in place well-defined metrics to assess the biological response in a timely way, and promptly raise the flow requirements if 40% is found inadequate.

I made my living in agricultural biotechnology. I have deep respect for the hard work farmers do, and the great food they make available for all of us. Still, they have been terrible stewards of our water resources. They need to use water more efficiently, stop increasing acreage of crops requiring irrigation, and rethink high-water/low-value crops like alfalfa that can only make economic sense with highly subsidized water. We city dwellers need to maximize our water use efficiency, but as ag uses 80% of our developed water, they need to step up also.

Thanks for your consideration,

Heinrich Albert
2525 Webb Ave
Alameda, CA 94501