

**From:** [Jeanne Bodiford](#)  
**To:** [commentletters](#)  
**Cc:** [bluebird7@mlode.com](mailto:bluebird7@mlode.com)  
**Subject:** Comment Ltr- 2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment & SED  
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Attention: Jeanine Townsend. Clerk to the Board

After seven decades of learning (and realizing that so much more is yet to be learned) and 37 years in the medical field and military life, it is continually disappointing how mindsets seem to believe that more and more “growth” is the only future! Without profound foresight, long-term vision and constant use of our reasoning ability we doom ourselves to repetition of and enlargement of past mistakes in judgement! California has far more people than it has natural water sources yet we now allow fracking and other major pollution of a resource far more precious to ALL life than any one group’s interests. The stuck-in-the-past thinkers who press for more dams and reservoirs seem oblivious to the huge cost in both money and environmental destruction from building dams PLUS the fact that it then becomes polluted by motorized watercraft fuel, litter of all kinds and suffers tremendous evaporation losses! Replenishing our underground water tables appears to be the ONLY genuine method of regaining even a small part of “good” water which we have utilized AND squandered in many ways.

Too many vineyards have replaced FOOD in this state though recently we did see a news piece about dry-farming and how well it works for some vineyards. (Personally, I am a table grape fanatic and hope grapes as FOOD do not diminish.) The Web of Life already in place before we arrogant humans began to think we could do everything better is repugnant!!! We are a link in the chain of life and as a wise person once said, when we remove or damage a link or links to that chain, we affect the ENTIRE chain. Many informed individuals try to tell us how we’ve damaged our earth and are met with business interests who care nothing about public and planetary health, only their own little circle and profit. Yes, all that matters however the BIG PICTURE MUST BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION FOR THE GOOD OF ALL LIFE!

Perhaps the 40% increase (or return to what WAS more natural) in river flow is anathema to those thinking only of their situation so perhaps that could be lessened 2-3% in poor rain/snow years then allowed (or even increased) during good rain/snow years. Nothing is set in stone despite our attempts – we are here for a mere moment in time when infinity is considered so how dare we think we have the right to disrupt the Web of Life to such an extent that it then has unintended consequences for decades to come? The natural order of life on this planet has rivers emptying into oceans, replenishing various life forms, chemical balances, etc. If we are to interfere with these needs we should do so in the least harmful manner, perhaps reversing SOME of the rivers’ waters for crops but NOT if it contains the over-load of fertilizers and pesticides that amoral corporations have foisted on us for decades. Our actions to undo so much of the natural order is resulting in fewer pollinating insects, major decline in Monarchs, resistant “bad bugs” which then “require” stronger toxins, less food for our beautiful and intelligent native (and migrating birds), over 100,000 chemicals in our environment (residues of which get into all water supplies and many in us) and

these are only some of the awful issues we face resulting from our attempts to “control” and “conquer” nature for our benefit.

We in California are more fortunate than most states due to some forward-thinking and a higher degree of responsibility about our environment. Nonetheless, materialistic interests with no foresight or conscience – only profit-motives – continue to degrade our state whenever they can with little or no thought (or even the intellectual concept) of resulting problems!

It is my fervent hope that, despite the recent turn towards short-term profit and hang- the- future attitudes, the wiser, better educated and informed will be given AT LEAST an equal seat at the table on these issues. PUBLIC AND PLANETARY HEALTH SHOULD ALWAYS BE CONSIDERED. NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT AND NO PERSON, CORPORATION OR GROUP SHOULD EVER BE GIVEN POWER TO OVER-RIDE THESE FACTS!

Sincerely,

Loretta J. Bodiford

Soulsbyville, CA 95372