



December 10, 2016

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-0100

Email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Dear Members of the State Water Board,

I am a lifelong citizen of the San Francisco Bay area (Belmont & San Carlos) and in my 64 years I have seen profound changes in the San Francisco Bay. From massive landfill projects that have created new cities such as Foster City and Redwood Shores while destroying that area's massive wetlands to the recent restoration projects such as the Bair Island, East Palo Alto Shoreline and South Bay Salt Pond. These projects like all of the San Francisco bay needs the fresh water from the Bay-Delta system.

Please do everything in your power to protect and restore the Bay-Delta. Phase I of the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan provides an historic opportunity to revive the largest estuary on the West coast, including the San Joaquin River and its tributaries that are the life-blood of the Day-Delta ecosystem from the south.

As you are aware, the State Water board's own report, *Development of Flow Criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecosystem*, determined that approximately 60% of unimpaired flow between February and June would be fully protective of the fish and wildlife in the lower San Joaquin River and its three major tributaries. Therefore, it's disappointing that the draft *Substitute Environmental Document (SED) for Phase 1 of The Bay Delta Plan* proposes establishing February through June unimpaired flow requirements of only 30%-50% for the Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers.

At Least half of the San Joaquin River's natural flow should reach the Delta during the first six months of each year, and flows in the summer and fall should be sufficient to maintain fish and wildlife, water quality and recreational opportunities.

Please take full advantage of this once-in-a-generation opportunity to advance a comprehensive, long-term strategy for restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Sufficient in stream flows must be central to your decision.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Barile