



From: Joel Masser
To: [commentletters](#)
Cc: [Jim Beal](#); Assemblymember.kalra@assembly.ca.gov; [Evan Low](#)
Subject: 2016 Bay Delta Plan Amendment & SED – urging 60%-75% of unimpaired flows
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:11:04 AM

To the members of the State Water Resources Control Board:

I am active on environmental issues and have a particular interest in water policy. I wrote the water subplank of the 2016 California Democratic Party Platform, which says:

- Implement a comprehensive science-based water plan that includes managing each watershed (including groundwater) as a unified whole and upgrading the Delta levee system;
- Fully protect all water sources from contamination and guarantee sufficient water for the basic human needs of drinking and sanitation;
- Motivate efficient, sustainable, safe use of water and hold all users accountable for their consumption; implement and enforce regulations regarding groundwater use including full usage documentation; and,
- Ensure allocation and management of water to sustain ecosystems, fisheries, recreation, and endangered species.

I am concerned about the viability and health of fish, wildlife, and plant populations that depend on fresh, cool, flowing water in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River System. This includes both resident and migrating species. The entire river system drainage should be managed as a complete ecosystem. Its health depends among other things on the vigor of the salmon populations. These populations need to be boosted. The system is threatened by salt water intrusion into the Delta and by algae blooms that are toxic to people, plankton, and wildlife. In much of California, including Santa Clara County, human needs for clean, safe water depend on a healthy Sacramento-San Joaquin system.

The 2010 State Water Board report titled *Development of Flow Criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecosystem* stated:

“In order to preserve the attributes of a natural variable system to which native fish species are adapted, many of the criteria developed by the State Water Board are crafted as percentages of natural or unimpaired flows. These criteria include:

- 75% of unimpaired Delta outflow from January through June;
- 75% of unimpaired Sacramento River inflow from November through June; and
- 60% of unimpaired San Joaquin River inflow from February through June.”

Therefore, I urge you to set the flow at the needed levels of approximately 75% for Delta outflow, 75% for Sacramento River inflow, and 60% for San Joaquin River inflow during the specified months.

Thank you for considering my input.

Regards,
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