



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

Comment Letter – 2016 Bay Delta Plan Amendment and SED

I support proposed increased river flows in the Bay Delta Water Quality Control plan, although 40% should be a minimum flow and 60% the goal, as I understand the science and as determined by the State Water Board in 2010 and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2013.

With stunning arrogance, the irrigation interests have mounted the usual propaganda/billboard/disinformation/use-of-fear-and-frustration campaign to thwart good science and thwart your enlightened proposal to lead us toward sustainable water use in California. On their website, the irrigation districts claim minimum flow requirements could have “irreversible negative effects” upon their water supplies. Do they not understand the meaning of the word “irreversible?” These are the same actors who have been steadily damaging the delta and the fish populations for decades, so that we will see extinctions and crashing ecosystems. Do they think that once they completely break it that they can fix it again?

Please stand strong for sustainability, biodiversity, and California’s future. If the state forces them to change water use patterns, irrigated agriculture can actually lead the way in water recycling, crop shifting, groundwater management, and water use efficiency. They won’t do that if they can keep taking taxpayer-subsidized surface water from rivers that cannot afford to spare it.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Melinda Wright
PO Box 225
Groveland, CA 95321