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December 5, 2016

Public Comment
2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment & SED
Deadline: 1/17/17 12:00 noon

Via E-mail to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Jeanie Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: Comment Letter – “2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment & SED”

Members of the State Water Resources Control Board:

We support the "2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment & SED" and State Water Board proposal to increase river flows to 40% of the unimpaired river flows to benefit fish, other aquatic wildlife, and water quality in the Tuolumne, Merced, and Stanislaus River. We support all actions by the Board that will keep more water in the rivers.

A higher river flow with not only benefit the wildlife within the rivers as well as the warming temperature but also the overall water quality of the rivers. These three rivers drain into the Bay Delta and water quality is crucial to support the aquatic wildlife and many species living within this region.

The current water demand on all three rivers have left many aquatic species with not enough water. The temperature increases, low flow, and water quality are currently threatening the long term population of these aquatic species. For example, the number of salmon migrating up the Tuolumne River to spawn and the number that manage to return to the ocean has greatly diminished. Of the tens of thousands of salmon that have historically attempted this journey, currently only hundreds are able to return to the ocean. Another example of the dramatic effects of the low flow rivers is the steelhead population within these rivers. The population is collapsing and a major contributing factor is the low inadequate water flow. This proposal to the State Water Board to increase river flows is critical to the survival of these populations as well as the other aquatic wildlife.

We support this proposal and the significant direct benefits it would have on wildlife and water quality. Please pass this proposal and help protect our beautiful rivers and important habitat for the aquatic wildlife. Thank you.

Very truly yours,
STAMP | ERICKSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Stamp".

Michael Stamp