



Dear Members of the State Water Board,

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, as well as the San Joaquin River and its tributaries that provide the life-blood for the Bay-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 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 I of The Bay Delta Plan proposes establishing February through June flow requirements of only 35% of unimpaired flow 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 restoring the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Sufficient instream flows must be central to your decision.

Sincerely,

<u>Cindy Spring</u>	<u>Oakland</u>	<u>3-15-13</u>
Signature	City	Date