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SEP 0 3 1999

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 9th Street,
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

Dear Mr. Snow,

I am writing this letter as public comment on the CALFED Bay-Delta, on behalf of Delta Flyfishers, a 125 member affiliated club of the Federation of Fly Fishermen. Our organization is appalled that the draft presently proposed doesn't not seemed to reflect the understandings that had been announced as reached in the January through March process.

The channelization of the Delta and the destruction of farmland in the Delta, in effort to create a more waters for shipment to Southern California Cities and agriculture is a blatant violation of the provision that the only water which may be shipped to the south is that in excess of the needs that presently it exist on the waterways. This includes reds or nesting habitat for steelhead, trout and salmon, sufficient water flows for the return of salmon and steelhead and the maintenance of proper water temperatures for development of juvenile fish.

Your agency's bias towards further dam construction and increased capacity in existing structures poses a grave peril to California wild fish including its native salmon, trout and steelhead. Your agency's commitment to the building the bypass canal as presently contained into your document are in direct and blatant disregard for promises made in the earlier negotiations that only a through Delta system would be accepted.

As such, is beginning to look as Northern California agriculture and all persons live here should be fearful that this program is simply another effort to mislead, deceive, and cheat its citizens and industries of Northern California. By the further destruction of agricultural lands, and wildlife habitat, the plan severely damages the local farm economy, recreational fisheries and the enhancements of food fish populations for commercial fisheries.

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While we understand that human needs must be balanced against the needs of animals, there is no balance in destroying California rivers and streams, and local self sustained agriculture, for the benefit of agribusiness giants in regions without a sufficient water supply. The millions Californians who enjoy, and depend on, California's outdoors don't need more dams - they need better water conservation and management.

You're program should value all economic impacts created by it's proposed changes, in including the destruction of habitat, damages to fish and wildlife populations, and inundation of farmland. We urge you to use the forces of the free market, by including all costs, to encourage the development of new efficiencies. This should save California's wilderness, boost conservation, enhance or restore both the commercial and sport fishing industries, and benefit everyone in the long run. Please write so our organization may be informed as to where you stand on this important issue.

Very truly yours

Robert E. Laubengayer,
President, Delta Flyfishers
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