

### **Delta Counties Coalition**

Contra Costa County · Sacramento County · San Joaquin County · Solano County · Yolo County

*"Working together on water and Delta issues"*

July 29, 2015

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

John Laird, Secretary  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Sarah "Sally" Jewell, Secretary  
United States Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 6156  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Honorable Penny S. Pritzker, Secretary  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Regina A. McCarthy, Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3000  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Governor Brown, Secretaries Laird, Jewell and Pritzker, and Administrator McCarthy:

The recently released and rebranded Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)/California "WaterFix" and the partially Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report and Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIR/SDEIS) contain substantial changes from the initial public draft. We hope that this latest iteration of the BDCP will provide a complete and detailed description of the revised project, an accurate assessment and characterization of the potential impacts, and the specific elements of a comprehensive mitigation strategy to compensate for the impacts of this massive project as an extensive and detailed analysis is required in order to make that determination.

The spirit of both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is grounded in fully disclosing the impacts of project actions so that we, as a society, can make decisions with respect to our communities, livelihood, and environment. The RDEIR/SDEIS amount to nearly 8,000 pages of additional documentation. Given the size and complexity of the document and the need to refer back to the initial 40,000

July 29, 2015

Page -2-

pages, the current public comment period is distressingly inadequate. The recent extension of the comment period, while helpful, remains inadequate for meaningful review and comment of the revised documents, which must be reviewed in the context of the original BDCP and without the benefit of response to our earlier comments. Both CEQA and NEPA require, at a minimum, a summarized and clearly defined project and impact report. Given the lengthy environmental documents, more time is necessary.

The Delta counties, cities and towns are among the communities most affected by the proposed actions of the BDCP/California "WaterFix," and more time is needed to thoroughly review and comment on the recently released documents. On behalf of the Delta Counties Coalition and the Delta community, we respectfully request that the public comment period for the RDEIR/SDEIS be extended by, at least, another 60-days (deadline of December 29) in addition to the recently granted 60-day extension (deadline of October 30).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mary Nejedly Piepho  
Supervisor, Contra Costa County




Supervisor John M. Vasquez,  
Supervisor, Solano County



Don Nottoli  
Supervisor, Sacramento County



Jim Provenza  
Supervisor, Yolo County



Katherine M. Miller  
Supervisor, San Joaquin County

c: Delta Counties State Legislative Delegation  
Delta Counties Federal Legislative Delegation  
The Honorable Estevan Lopez, Commissioner of United States Bureau of  
Reclamation  
Mr. Mike Fris, Assistant Director of Endangered Species, Region 8  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service

July 29, 2015

Page -3-

Mr. Will Stelle, Regional Administrator of National Marine Fisheries Service

Mr. Michael Tucker, National Marine Fisheries Service

Delta Stewardship Council

Delta Protection Commission

Delta Conservancy