
From: Jim Blickenstaff <jpblick@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 7:31 AM
To: lsjr-sd-comments@waterboards.ca.gov; WQCP1Comments
Cc: 'Jim Blickenstaff'
Subject: COMMENT LETTER > SWRCB > AMENDMENT REVISIONS TO BAY-DELTA PLAN.

Date: July 20, 2018

To: State Water Resources Control Board / c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk
of the Board.

Re: Comments on Revisions Proposed for Bay-Delta Plan Amendments.

SWRCB:

I feel Phase 1 of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan is an important first step toward rescuing the Bay-Delta Drainage from its current path to more depletion, more diversion, and inevitable collapse. 40% may prove to be just enough for near term sustainability. Previous Scientific research concludes that 60% increase will be necessary. So the margin for error has already been removed! Phase 2 will be all the more critical to making sure we finalize flows sufficient for a stable and sustainable Bay-Delta Drainage.

Vested water interests counter proposals for habitat “enhancements” that do not improve fresh water flows must be seen and categorized as simply unsupportable ‘spin’ to serve agendas in conflict with long term preservation of the watershed. I have a pond in my back yard, and I can assure you that no matter how much I ‘enhance’ the “habitat” around the pond, as the water dissipates, the water gets dirtier, gets warmer, loses oxygen, constricts the livable aquatic space; the fish suffer from the short term water degradation, and overcrowding; and, inevitably – die; en-mass.

Obviously, more concessions to the agenda of proponents for more diversion, would simply be an admission that the process for total collapse of the eco-system will continue to its inevitable conclusion.

One point that needs to be articulated further is the ongoing sea level rise, and the negative impacts, directly resulting from the increasing salt water intrusion into the Bay-Delta Drainage eco-system. Expert predictions for S. F. Bay sea level rise by 2100 are close to 3’! Judging by how conservatively low previous scientific sea level rise predictions have been in the past, 3’ may end up being too “optimistic.” This is a key factor in determining essential long term flow levels; and should not be under appreciated, or undermitigated. It’s yet one more irreversible impact

from global warming that must be integrated into the cumulative total impacts.

Thank you for this positive first step in the long 'walk' to a viable and sustainable Bay-Delta eco-system. Let's all hope the voice of reason prevails.

Jim Blickenstaff
Mt. Diablo Sierra Club