

Dear Water Board Members,

It appears that you really do have a most difficult job in regulating how much water flows through the Delta and out to the Bay. I am most appreciative that you have chosen to increase the levels 30 to 50%. However, I think we need to keep in mind the science behind how much water flows and how that effects our environment. I understand that that agri-business is wanting more water for farming.

I am concerned that agri-business is not just in the business of growing crops but that it is truly in business to make a profit. It concerns me greatly, to see some traditional crops being replaced by thirsty crops such as almonds and other nuts, that need to be irrigated even in the winter. I know we can't tell them what they can grow at this time, but by limiting the amounts of water they are allowed, this will naturally regulate what crops they can grow.

I have heard figures that say 70% of our almond crops are being exported to other countries. I understand that this is a complicated issue, but I don't think this should take precedence over our water needs and environmental concerns in our own back yards. Everywhere I drive, lately, I see fields being torn up and replaced with nut trees. Even with efficient watering methods this is absolutely outrageous.

I sincerely hope that you will allow more water to flow through the Delta now and in the years to come.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Roslyn Eliaser Carmichael, Ca