

**From:** Barbara Arnold <bjarnold@ucdavis.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2015 9:46 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Photo from Oct 11, 2014

This is the view from our back yard and is the territory you would destroy with the most northern of the planned tunnel intakes. These cranes have been coming here for years, we most not push them out of the area and leave the Delta unimpacted. The cranes need water too, so don't you dare take it away



**From:** Barbara Arnold <bjarnold@ucdavis.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2015 10:20 AM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Photo from Oct 11, 2014

The voice of the cranes: These birds are foraging on land that will be compromised by the planned tunnel intakes just south of Scribner Road. Their bands on the legs have been researched and indicate that Modoc county near Alturas where there is nesting for cranes. They spend their winters here, and now we have a greater than 20 year history of crane families returning to the Delta, we dare not displace these abandon the proposed tunnel plans. Sincerely, Barbara Arnold, MD



**From:** Anna S <anna.terese1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2015 4:39 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** No tunnels please!

And there are:



#### Legal Issues

1. Although required by the 2009 Delta Reform Act and Delta Plan, this proposed plan fails to adequately address the co-equal goals of improving statewide water reliability and protecting and restoring a healthy Delta ecosystem while preserving and enhancing the agricultural, cultural, and recreational characteristics of the Delta.
2. The RDEIR/SDEIS is not consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act.
3. The BDCP /California Water Fix conflicts with, the Environmental Protection Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Delta Protection Act.
4. The BDCP doesn't reduce reliance on the Delta as a water source as mandated by state law and the California Water Action Plan.
5. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council analysis of the DEIR/SDEIS, there are multiple instances where the document misleads the public. For example, the plan uses illegal baselines for determining freshwater flows before installation of the project as well as after construction is complete. When determining freshwater flows through the Delta to meet standards, the document indicates that the flow will be measured above the tunnel outtake, not downstream from the tunnels where the actual flow will occur. If the public and decision makers are to trust data provided by the project, then that data should be accurate and appropriately gathered.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Anna Davis  
Benicia, CA

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**From:** Brian Gribaudo <fisher95632@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2015 5:33 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments

you suck

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**From:** Friends of the River <info@friendsoftheriver.org> on behalf of Kathleen Grdinich <info@friendsoftheriver.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:31 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** I oppose all alternatives in the Revised BDCP that propose construction of new diversions and tunnels under the Delta

Oct 28, 2015

BDCP Comments

Dear Comments,

Thank you for receiving public comments in response to the Recirculated Draft BDCP Plan and Draft EIR/EIS.

I oppose all alternatives in the BDCP that propose construction of new diversions and tunnels under the Delta. I oppose the project because:

It is too costly (up to \$54 billion with interest and other hidden costs) and the general public should not have to cover any of this outrageous, including habitat restoration costs. These should be paid by those who receive the water (since the Delta diversions degraded the habitat in the first place).

Operation of the diversions and tunnels threaten to dewater major upstream reservoirs in northern California and reduce downstream river flows, to the detriment of fish, wildlife, recreation, and other public trust values.

Diversion and tunnel facilities would adversely impact too much Delta farmland and habitat, harm Brannan Island State Park, infringe on the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, and degrade other essential conservation lands.

You cannot restore Delta habitat without first determining how much fresh water the Delta needs to survive and thrive. Restoration of fresh water flows from the San Joaquin River in the south Delta are particularly important.

The tunnels will need more upstream storage facilities to feed fresh water into them. These include raising Shasta Dam, building the Sites Reservoir, and possibly reviving the Auburn Dam on the American River and the Dos Rios Dam on the Eel. The environmental, cultural, and financial impacts of these controversial projects are a significant foreseeable but ignored impact of the BDCP.

.Gov Brown,

I voted for you...was this a mistake?? I am against the tunnels.

I believe that the Revised BDCP should have included, and I would support, an alternative that significantly reduces Delta exports and focuses instead on restoring habitat and threatened and endangered species in the Delta, improves Delta water quality by providing sufficient fresh water inflow from both the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and that includes a pragmatic plan to sustainably meeting California's water needs. This can be done by increasing agricultural and urban water use efficiency, capturing and treating storm water, recycling urban waste water, cleaning up polluted groundwater, and reducing irrigation of desert lands in the southern Central Valley with severe drainage problems. We don't need to build more dams or tunnels.

Thank you for considering my comments.

RECIRC2841

Sincerely,

Ms. Kathleen Grdinich  
4100 Amargosa Dr  
Antioch, CA 94531-8242  
kgrdinich@comcast.net

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**From:** AWA VC <awa@awavc.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2015 9:55 AM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Cc:** governor@governor.ca.gov; smadsen@bcfpublicaffairs.com; 'Thomas Slosson'  
**Subject:** CA Water Fix ltr  
**Attachments:** AWA support BDCP WaterFix Alt 4A 10\_22\_15.docx

**Importance:** High

To: BDCP

Please see attached letter regarding the CA Water Fix Alt 4A which we would like submitted into the official record for support of immediate action on moving forward with the project. California cannot afford to WAIT for reaction to a crisis when it involves our most precious resource - water.

Our association represents hundreds of agencies, municipalities, businesses and private citizens in Ventura County.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Kelle L. Pistone**  
**Managing Director**  
**Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County (AWA)**  
**Celebrating Over 38 Years of Collaboration**  
5156 McGrath Street, Suite 104  
Ventura, California 93003  
Main: 805.644.0922  
Cell: 805.338.1755  
Fax: 805.644.0435  
Reservations: 866.260.8018  
Website: [www.awavc.org](http://www.awavc.org)

*AWA's Mission: "To develop and encourage cooperation among the entities for the development, protection, conservation and improvement of the total water resources for Ventura County."*



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**ASSOCIATION OF WATER AGENCIES OF VENTURA COUNTY**

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October 22, 2015

BDCP/Water Fix Comments

P.O.Box 1919

Sacramento, CA 95812

cc: Governor Jerry Brown

Subject: Support Alternative 4A of California Water Fix

Dear BDCP/Water Fix Comments:

On behalf of the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County (AWA), we are writing to express our strong support for the California Water Fix (Alternative 4A). The California Water Fix represents a thoroughly vetted, viable plan to fix California's aging water distribution system that supplies water to 25 million Californians and 3 million acres of farmland, while also protecting the natural environment in the Delta.

The recirculated documents are the culmination of nearly a decade of extensive expert review, planning and scientific and environmental analysis by the state's leading water experts, engineers and conservationists, and unprecedented public comment and participation. The California Water Fix (Alternative 4A) reflects significant changes and improvements to the plan to address comments from the state and federal governments and other stakeholders.

**THE TIME IS NOW!** We urge the Department of Water Resources and the Administration to move forward to bring the California Water Fix to fruition.

**PLEASE DON'T WAIT FOR A NATURAL DISASTER.** Our state's system of aging dirt levees, aqueducts and pipes that brings water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to 2/3 of the State is outdated and at risk of collapse in the event of a major earthquake or flood. Problems with this aging system have already resulted in significant water supply cutbacks and shortages for people, farms and businesses, as well as damage to fish, wildlife and the environment.

The California Water Fix will improve our water delivery infrastructure to allow us to responsibly capture and move water during wet years, so that we have a greater water supply during future droughts. The current drought has demonstrated that California's aging water infrastructure is not equipped to handle the regular boom and bust cycles of our climate. With above average rains predicted in the near future, we must move forward with improved infrastructure to capture the water when it's available.

The California Water Fix (Alternative 4A) will:

- Protect water supplies by delivering them through a modern water pipeline rather than relying solely on today's deteriorating dirt levee system.
- Build a water delivery system that is able to protect our water supplies from earthquakes, floods and natural disasters.
- Improve the ability to move water to storage facilities throughout the state so we can capture it for use in dry years.
- Restore more natural water flows above ground in rivers and streams in order to reduce impacts on endangered fish and other wildlife.
- Protect and restore wildlife and the environment of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Getting to this point has been a long and thorough process. Now is the time to act and move forward to protect California's water security.

For these reasons, we support the California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Sincerely,

Thomas Slosson  
President  
Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County

**From:** Kellie Evans <kiwikittymama@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 25, 2015 1:56 AM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Save the Delta.

**My name is Kellie Evans. I rent a small home on the Sacramento River. We relocated in 2010, after we lost our home of 24 years in Oakley, CA., to a foreclosure.**

**Losing our home was hell, but living in this beautiful place has been a blessing.**

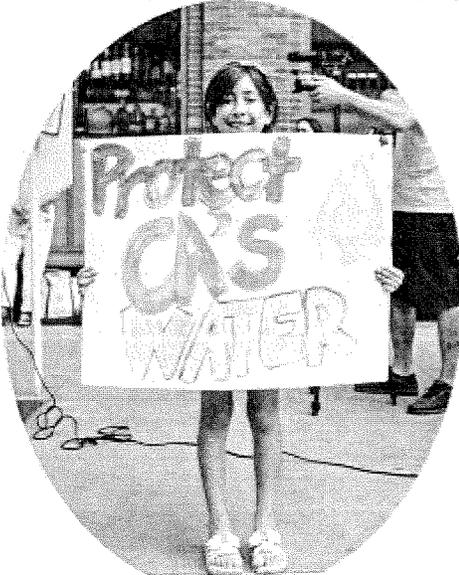
**I was raised on these waters as a child. Weekends, and all vacations spent with parents, grandparents and family enjoying the beauty of our California Delta.**

**Thank you for taking the time to read my statement.**

**Kellie Evans  
16765 State Hwy 160  
Isleton, CA. 95641  
(916) 777-5084**

**Subject: Oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)**

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the the Delta Tunnels plan.



The Delta Reform Act of 2009, in which the California State Legislature committed to the “coequal goals” of providing a more reliable water supply for California AND protecting and restoring the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta, cannot be upheld if the Delta Tunnels come to pass.

The California Water Fix does not meet the restoration goals of the Delta Reform Act; it is simply a plan to export more water out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The Delta Tunnels will also fail to provide more reliable water because the Delta watershed is already oversubscribed by five times in normal water years.

**My objections to the tunnels are threefold:**

The California Water Fix does not address the environmental, public health or economic impacts of the proposed Delta tunnels project. Also, the plan ignores alternatives that would save California tax and ratepayers billions of dollars, while investing in the jobs and local water sources that build sustainability.

**My environmental concerns with the plan are:**

- The impact on wildlife and plant species in the Delta that depend on freshwater include the Delta smelt, chinook salmon, steelhead, San Joaquin kit fox, and tricolored blackbird, protected species already on the brink that will face decimation due to a diminishing food-web.
- At sea, even the ESA-listed South Pacific Puget Sound Orca Whales depend on migrating Delta species that will be harmed by less water flowing through the Delta.
- The tunnels plan seems to ignore Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act which prohibits federal agency actions that are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or that “result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of [listed] species.”

**My public health concerns with the plan are:**

- The tunnels will cause increased contamination of municipal water and wells for the millions of rural and urban residents living in the five Delta counties.
- The tunnels plan fails to model for potential increases of carcinogens and other formation of byproducts that would cause cancer and other serious health effects.
- Environmental justice communities, who depend on subsistence fishing, will also face food and health insecurities as a result of increased contaminants, specifically mercury contamination, in fish and wildlife populations.

**My economic concerns with the plan are:**

- For large metropolitan cities such as Los Angeles and San Jose that depend on export water, water rates and/or property taxes will go up, but they will get no additional water.
- No analysis has been done on how the lack of fresh water flows will impact San Francisco Bay tourism and recreation. These industries depend on Delta fresh water flows for their crab and salmon fisheries, wildlife sighting, boating, and their restaurant economy. This industry is worth billions annually.
- Salinity intrusion is already impacting the western Delta farms and removing Sacramento River freshwater from the system will make matters worse. Delta farmers cannot irrigate crops with salt water and they certainly cannot plant crops in contaminated soils. The Delta Ag economy, which consists of generations of family farms and farm workers, generates \$5.2 billion for the California economy, annually.
- California coastal fishing communities depend on thriving wildlife. This historic industry is worth billions annually, with the salmon industry worth \$1.5 billion annually alone. Thousands of jobs and livelihoods are tied to these industries.
- The operation and construction of the tunnels will obstruct and disable navigable waterways for boating, marinas and other types of leisure activities, in addition to creating conditions of low water flow that will

foster invasive aquatic species, such as water hyacinth. Poor water quality also creates unsafe recreation. Recreation and tourism in the Delta generate \$750 million annually.

### **Alternatives to Water Exports Ignored**

Far far less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta.

Our tax and ratepayer dollars would be much better spent on:

- More aggressive water efficiency program statewide that would apply to both urban and agricultural users.
- Funding water recycling and groundwater recharging projects statewide that would be billions of dollars less expensive for rate payers than constructing a new version of the Peripheral Canal or major new surface storage dams. Meanwhile, these projects move communities towards water sustainability.
- Retiring thousands of acres of impaired and pollution generating farmlands in the southern San Joaquin Valley and using those lands for more sustainable and profitable uses, such as solar energy generation.
- Improving Delta levees in order to address potential earthquake, flooding, and future sea level rise concerns at a cost between \$2 to \$4 billion and is orders of-magnitude less expensive than major conveyance projects that are currently being contemplated.
- Increasing freshwater flows through the Delta to reduce pollutants so ecosystems and wildlife can be restored.
- Installing fish screens at the south Delta pumps to reduce the current salvage of marine life.

### **In Summary**

The Delta has problems that need to be addressed, but the CA Water Fix tunnels are a 20th century idea that won't fix them. It won't produce more water, more reliable supplies, or improved conditions for the environment in the Delta.

The new EIR/EIS has not adequately addressed my above stated concerns. That is why I oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Reclamation and DWR should prepare and circulate a new Draft EIR/EIS that will include alternatives that reduce water exports and increase Delta flows for consideration by the public and decision-makers. Such alternatives have a far better chance of complying with the Delta Reform Act and the federal Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

Sent from my iPad

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**From:** Brien Brennan <brien.b.b@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2015 10:28 AM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)

I am writing to express my **strong** opposition to the the Delta Tunnels plan. And that is being polite, of course.

For starters, this project would make a mockery of The Delta Reform Act of 2009, in which the California State Legislature committed to the "coequal goals" of providing a more reliable water supply for California **AND** protecting and restoring the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta.

The California Water Fix does not meet the restoration goals of the Delta Reform Act; it is simply a plan to export more water out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The Delta Tunnels will also fail to provide more reliable water because the Delta watershed is already oversubscribed by five times in **normal** water years. And if you know climatic history of California, what is now called "normal" is actually one of the wetter epochs in the last 7000 years.

**My objections to the tunnels are many:**

The California Water Fix does not address the environmental, public health or economic impacts of the proposed Delta tunnels project. Also, the plan ignores alternatives that would save California tax and ratepayers billions of dollars, while investing in jobs that could benefit local water sources and the life they hold and support.

**My environmental concerns with the plan are clear:**

- I'd rather live in a world with Delta smelt, chinook salmon, steelhead, San Joaquin kit fox, and tricolored blackbird than I would in a world with cell phones, flush toilets, gold courses and cars. These protected species are already on the brink of extinction and this plan, if implemented, would undermine their already greatly depleted food web.
- At sea, even the ESA-listed South Pacific Puget Sound Orca Whales depend on migrating Delta species that will be harmed by less water flowing through the Delta.
- The tunnels plan apparently ignores Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act which prohibits federal agency actions that are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or that "result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of [listed] species."
- The decimation of the entire Sacramento River watershed, which is already well under way, would be accelerated by the taking of such vast quantities of water from the Sacramento. I live along a creek that not long ago was a perennial, salmon-bearing tributary to the Sacramento. Now it goes dry in summers for months at a time. Agriculture is the primary culprit and any plan that sends water to very arid

areas for irrigation is a crime against life and the true underpinning of nearly every societal collapse in arid and semi-arid lands around the world. California is on a fast track to join this list of failed states thanks to the excessive extraction of the most critical components of life: soil and water.

### **My public health concerns with the plan:**

- The tunnels will cause increased contamination of municipal water and wells for the millions of rural and urban residents living in the five Delta counties.
- The tunnels plan fails to model for potential increases of carcinogens and other formation of byproducts that would cause cancer and other serious health effects.
- Environmental justice communities, who depend on subsistence fishing, will also face food and health insecurities as a result of increased contaminants, specifically mercury contamination, in fish and wildlife populations.

### **My economic concerns with the plan:**

- For large metropolitan cities such as Los Angeles and San Jose that depend on export water, water rates and/or property taxes will go up, but they will get no additional water.
- No analysis has been done on how the lack of fresh water flows will impact San Francisco Bay tourism and recreation. These industries depend on Delta fresh water flows for their crab and salmon fisheries, wildlife sighting, boating, and their restaurant economy. This industry is worth billions annually.
- Salinity intrusion is already impacting the western Delta farms and removing Sacramento River freshwater from the system will make matters worse. Delta farmers cannot irrigate crops with salt water and they certainly cannot plant crops in contaminated soils. The Delta Ag economy, which consists of generations of family farms and farm workers, generates \$5.2 billion for the California economy, annually.
- California coastal fishing communities depend on thriving wildlife. This historic industry is worth billions annually, with the salmon industry worth \$1.5 billion annually alone. Thousands of jobs and livelihoods are tied to these industries.

### **Alternatives to Water Exports Ignored**

Far far less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta. This is insanity. The Delta used to be the largest estuary in western North America, a place of incredible fertility and fecundity. This plan is a statement that says, "We hate life. We hate the evolutionary process that created us and on which we depend for our subsistence. In essence, false riches for a few trumps everything we truly need to live well and sustainably."

Our tax and ratepayer dollars would be much better spent on:

- Restoration of ecological functions through assistance to and protection for all native native species.
- More aggressive water efficiency program statewide that would apply to urban and, especially, agricultural users.
- Funding water recycling and groundwater recharging projects statewide that would be billions of dollars less expensive for rate payers than constructing a new version of the Peripheral Canal or major new surface storage dams. Meanwhile, these projects move communities towards water security.
- Retiring thousands of acres of impaired and pollution-generating farmlands in the southern San Joaquin Valley and using those lands for restoration of native biological communities.
- Banning the destruction of native plant communities, as these, when intact, are the storers and filterers of all surface water.
- Increasing freshwater flows through the Delta to reduce pollutants so ecosystems and wildlife can be restored.
- Installing fish screens at the south Delta pumps to reduce the current savage murder of marine life.

### **In Summary**

The Delta has problems that need to be addressed, but the CA Water Fix tunnels are a 20th Century (the century of gargantuan ecological mistakes) idea that won't fix them. It won't produce more water, more reliable supplies, or improved conditions for the life in the Delta.

The new EIR/EIS has not adequately addressed my above stated concerns. That is why I oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Reclamation and DWR should prepare and circulate a new Draft EIR/EIS that will include alternatives that reduce water exports and increase Delta flows for consideration by the public and decision-makers. Such alternatives have a far better chance of complying with the Delta Reform Act and the federal Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

Sincerely,

Brien Brennan

Red Bluff, CA 96080

**From:** David Olson <david@oldriverlabs.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015 3:18 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Subject: Oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the the Delta Tunnels plan.

The Delta Reform Act of 2009, in which the California State Legislature committed to the “coequal goals” of providing a more reliable water supply for California AND protecting and restoring the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta, cannot be upheld if the Delta Tunnels come to pass.

The California Water Fix does not meet the restoration goals of the Delta Reform Act; it is simply a plan to export more water out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The Delta Tunnels will also fail to provide more reliable water because the Delta watershed is already oversubscribed by five times in normal water years.

**My objections to the tunnels are threefold:**

The California Water Fix does not address the environmental, public health or economic impacts of the proposed Delta tunnels project. Also, the plan ignores alternatives that would save California tax and ratepayers billions of dollars, while investing in the jobs and local water sources that build sustainability.

**My environmental concerns with the plan are:**

- The impact on wildlife and plant species in the Delta that depend on freshwater include the Delta smelt, chinook salmon, steelhead, San Joaquin kit fox, and tricolored blackbird, protected species already on the brink that will face decimation due to a diminishing food-web.
- At sea, even the ESA-listed South Pacific Puget Sound Orca Whales depend on migrating Delta species that will be harmed by less water flowing through the Delta.
- The tunnels plan seems to ignore Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act which prohibits federal agency actions that are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or that “result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of [listed] species.”

My public health concerns with the plan are:

- The tunnels will cause increased contamination of municipal water and wells for the millions of rural and urban residents living in the five Delta counties.
- The tunnels plan fails to model for potential increases of carcinogens and other formation of byproducts that would cause cancer and other serious health effects.
- Environmental justice communities, who depend on subsistence fishing, will also face food and health insecurities as a result of increased contaminants, specifically mercury contamination, in fish and wildlife populations.

**My economic concerns with the plan are:**

- For large metropolitan cities such as Los Angeles and San Jose that depend on export water, water rates and/or property taxes will go up, but they will get no additional water.
- No analysis has been done on how the lack of fresh water flows will impact San Francisco Bay tourism and recreation. These industries depend on Delta fresh water flows for their crab and salmon fisheries, wildlife sighting, boating, and their restaurant economy. This industry is worth billions annually.
- Salinity intrusion is already impacting the western Delta farms and removing Sacramento River freshwater from the system will make matters worse. Delta farmers cannot irrigate crops with salt water and they certainly cannot plant crops in contaminated soils. The Delta Ag economy, which consists of generations of family farms and farm workers, generates \$5.2 billion for the California economy, annually.
- California coastal fishing communities depend on thriving wildlife. This historic industry is worth billions annually, with the salmon industry worth \$1.5 billion annually alone. Thousands of jobs and livelihoods are tied to these industries.
- The operation and construction of the tunnels will obstruct and disable navigable waterways for boating, marinas and other types of leisure activities, in addition to creating conditions of low water flow that will foster invasive aquatic species, such as water hyacinth. Poor water quality also creates unsafe recreation. Recreation and tourism in the Delta generate \$750 million annually.

**Alternatives to Water Exports Ignored**

Far far less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta.

Our tax and ratepayer dollars would be much better spent on:

- More aggressive water efficiency program statewide that would apply to both urban and agricultural users.
- Funding water recycling and groundwater recharging projects statewide that would be billions of dollars less expensive for rate payers than constructing a new version of the Peripheral Canal or major new surface storage dams. Meanwhile, these projects move communities towards water sustainability.
- Retiring thousands of acres of impaired and pollution generating farmlands in the southern San Joaquin Valley and using those lands for more sustainable and profitable uses, such as solar energy generation.
- Improving Delta levees in order to address potential earthquake, flooding, and future sea level rise concerns at a cost between \$2 to \$4 billion and is orders-of-magnitude less expensive than major conveyance projects that are currently being contemplated.
- Increasing freshwater flows through the Delta to reduce pollutants so ecosystems and wildlife can be restored.
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#### **In Summary**

The Delta has problems that need to be addressed, but the CA Water Fix tunnels are a 20th century idea that won't fix them. It won't produce more water, more reliable supplies, or improved conditions for the environment in the Delta.

The new EIR/EIS has not adequately addressed my above stated concerns. That is why I oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Reclamation and DWR should prepare and circulate a new Draft EIR/EIS that will include alternatives that reduce water exports and increase Delta flows for consideration by the public and decision-makers. Such alternatives have a far better chance of complying with the Delta Reform Act and the federal Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

Me and my family live in the Delta on the farm that my great grandparents founded. It is a beautiful place to live with owls, eagles, storks, rabbits, coyotes, and many other wild animals that make their habitat here. Please do not change our wonderful home.

Sincerely,  
Loretta Olson

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**From:** Daniel Armstrong <dsa2780@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2015 12:19 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Subject:** Oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)

Don't ruin the delta. Like, really. This is how you want yourselves to go down in history? As the people that could have saved a natural wonder but neglected and exploited it and all its inhabitants, both animal and human for the financial gain of a few wealthy water mongers?

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the the Delta Tunnels plan.

The Delta Reform Act of 2009, in which the California State Legislature committed to the "coequal goals" of providing a more reliable water supply for California AND protecting and restoring the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta, cannot be upheld if the Delta Tunnels come to pass.

The California Water Fix does not meet the restoration goals of the Delta Reform Act; it is simply a plan to export more water out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The Delta Tunnels will also fail to provide more reliable water because the Delta watershed is already oversubscribed by five times in normal water years.

**My objections to the tunnels are threefold:**

The California Water Fix does not address the environmental, public health or economic impacts of the proposed Delta tunnels project. Also, the plan ignores alternatives that would save California tax and ratepayers billions of dollars, while investing in the jobs and local water sources that build sustainability.

**My environmental concerns with the plan are:**

- The impact on wildlife and plant species in the Delta that depend on freshwater include the Delta smelt, chinook salmon, steelhead, San Joaquin kit fox, and tricolored blackbird, protected species already on the brink that will face decimation due to a diminishing food-web.
- At sea, even the ESA-listed South Pacific Puget Sound Orca Whales depend on migrating Delta species that will be harmed by less water flowing through the Delta.
- The tunnels plan seems to ignore Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act which prohibits federal agency actions that are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or that "result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of [listed] species."

My public health concerns with the plan are:

- The tunnels will cause increased contamination of municipal water and wells for the millions of rural and urban residents living in the five Delta counties.

- The tunnels plan fails to model for potential increases of carcinogens and other formation of byproducts that would cause cancer and other serious health effects.
- Environmental justice communities, who depend on subsistence fishing, will also face food and health insecurities as a result of increased contaminants, specifically mercury contamination, in fish and wildlife populations.

**My economic concerns with the plan are:**

- For large metropolitan cities such as Los Angeles and San Jose that depend on export water, water rates and/or property taxes will go up, but they will get no additional water.
- No analysis has been done on how the lack of fresh water flows will impact San Francisco Bay tourism and recreation. These industries depend on Delta fresh water flows for their crab and salmon fisheries, wildlife sighting, boating, and their restaurant economy. This industry is worth billions annually.
- Salinity intrusion is already impacting the western Delta farms and removing Sacramento River freshwater from the system will make matters worse. Delta farmers cannot irrigate crops with salt water and they certainly cannot plant crops in contaminated soils. The Delta Ag economy, which consists of generations of family farms and farm workers, generates \$5.2 billion for the California economy, annually.
- California coastal fishing communities depend on thriving wildlife. This historic industry is worth billions annually, with the salmon industry worth \$1.5 billion annually alone. Thousands of jobs and livelihoods are tied to these industries.
- The operation and construction of the tunnels will obstruct and disable navigable waterways for boating, marinas and other types of leisure activities, in addition to creating conditions of low water flow that will foster invasive aquatic species, such as water hyacinth. Poor water quality also creates unsafe recreation. Recreation and tourism in the Delta generate \$750 million annually.

**Alternatives to Water Exports Ignored**

Far far less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta.

Our tax and ratepayer dollars would be much better spent on:

- More aggressive water efficiency program statewide that would apply to both urban and agricultural users.
- Funding water recycling and groundwater recharging projects statewide that would be billions of dollars less expensive for rate payers than constructing a new version of the

Peripheral Canal or major new surface storage dams. Meanwhile, these projects move communities towards water sustainability.

- Retiring thousands of acres of impaired and pollution generating farmlands in the southern San Joaquin Valley and using those lands for more sustainable and profitable uses, such as solar energy generation.
- Improving Delta levees in order to address potential earthquake, flooding, and future sea level rise concerns at a cost between \$2 to \$4 billion and is orders of-magnitude less expensive than major conveyance projects that are currently being contemplated.
- Increasing freshwater flows through the Delta to reduce pollutants so ecosystems and wildlife can be restored.
- Installing fish screens at the south Delta pumps to reduce the current salvage of marine life.

### **In Summary**

The Delta has problems that need to be addressed, but the CA Water Fix tunnels are a 20th century idea that won't fix them. It won't produce more water, more reliable supplies, or improved conditions for the environment in the Delta.

The new EIR/EIS has not adequately addressed my above stated concerns. That is why I oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Reclamation and DWR should prepare and circulate a new Draft EIR/EIS that will include alternatives that reduce water exports and increase Delta flows for consideration by the public and decision-makers. Such alternatives have a far better chance of complying with the Delta Reform Act and the federal Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

*End of letter*

**From:** Howard Itow <pufferfish7@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2015 1:33 PM  
**To:** BDCPcomments  
**Cc:** Howard Itow  
**Subject:** Written Comments: Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)  
**Attachments:** Public Comment Letter to BDCP.pdf

Please find attached subject document.

Thank you.

Sent by Email

October 30, 2015

BDCP/WaterFix Comments  
P.O. Box 1919, Sacramento, CA 95812  
emailed to BDCPComments@icfi.com.

Subject: Oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A)

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Delta Tunnels plan.

I am a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Californian, therefore, my children are 5<sup>th</sup> generation Californian. I have been witness to the degradation of the greater San Francisco Bay and Delta ecosystem over the past 40 plus years. I adamantly oppose the Delta Tunnel/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

- This Tunnel Project is just another example of favorable legislation for an elite group of people.
- This Tunnel Project does not consider the other more viable economic and environmental alternatives proposed by groups advocating for common-sense management of California's water supply.
  - There are significantly less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels, yet they were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta.

Points below are included for the sake of thoroughness.

The Delta Reform Act of 2009, in which the California State Legislature committed to the "coequal goals" of providing a more reliable water supply for California AND protecting and restoring the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta, cannot be upheld if the Delta Tunnels come to pass.

The California Water Fix does not meet the restoration goals of the Delta Reform Act; it is simply a plan to export more water out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The Delta Tunnels will also fail to provide more reliable water because the Delta watershed is already oversubscribed by five times in normal water years.

I adamantly oppose the plan because the California Water Fix does not address the environmental, public health or economic impacts of the proposed Delta tunnels project. Also, the plan ignores alternatives that would save California tax and ratepayers billions of dollars in the long-run, for example, why isn't there consideration for a federal buyout and complete retirement of desert farmland that is or will soon be unfit for farming? This project is a huge boondoggle when the solutions are far and away simple and less expensive.

I adamantly oppose the plan because of my concern over the environmental impact the tunnels will have on the Bay-Delta estuary.

- The impact on wildlife and plant species in the Delta that depend on freshwater include the Delta smelt, chinook salmon, steelhead, San Joaquin kit fox, and tricolored blackbird, protected species already on the brink that will face decimation due to a diminishing food-web.

- At sea, even the ESA-listed South Pacific Puget Sound Orca Whales depend on migrating Delta species that will be harmed by less water flowing through the Delta.
- The tunnels plan seems to ignore Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act which prohibits federal agency actions that are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or that "result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of [listed] species."

I adamantly oppose the plan because of public health concerns created by the plan.

- The tunnels will cause increased contamination of municipal water and wells for the millions of rural and urban residents living in the five Delta counties.
- The tunnels plan fails to model for potential increases of carcinogens and other formation of byproducts that would cause cancer and other serious health effects.
- Environmental justice communities, who depend on subsistence fishing, will also face food and health insecurities as a result of increased contaminants, specifically mercury contamination, in fish and wildlife populations.

I adamantly oppose the plan because of economic concerns.

- Large metropolitan cities such as Los Angeles and San Jose that depend on export water, water rates and/or property taxes will go up, but they will get no additional water.
- No analysis has been done on how the lack of fresh water flows will impact San Francisco Bay tourism and recreation. These industries depend on Delta fresh water flows for their crab and salmon fisheries, wildlife sighting, boating, and their restaurant economy. This industry is worth billions annually.
- Salinity intrusion is already impacting the western Delta farms and removing Sacramento River freshwater from the system will make matters worse. Delta farmers cannot irrigate crops with salt water and they certainly cannot plant crops in contaminated soils. The Delta Ag economy, which consists of generations of family farms and farm workers, generates \$5.2 billion for the California economy, annually.
- California coastal fishing communities depend on thriving wildlife. This historic industry is worth billions annually, with the salmon industry worth \$1.5 billion annually alone. Thousands of jobs and livelihoods are tied to these industries.
- The operation and construction of the tunnels will obstruct and disable navigable waterways for boating, marinas and other types of leisure activities, in addition to creating conditions of low water flow that will foster invasive aquatic species, such as water hyacinth. Poor water quality also creates unsafe recreation. Recreation and tourism in the Delta generate \$750 million annually.

California Water Fix Ignores Alternatives to Water Exports. Isn't it the goal to find a viable common sense plan to correctly fix the problem? Instead, the plan is a "fix" for an elite group of people seeking more favorable legislation.

There are significantly less expensive and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the Delta Tunnels, yet they were largely ignored. The plan does not seriously consider any alternatives other than new, upstream conveyance. The decision-making process (from the outset) has tilted in favor of increasing water exports from the Delta.

Our tax and ratepayer dollars would be much better spent on:

- More aggressive water efficiency program statewide that would apply to both urban and agricultural users.
- Funding water recycling and groundwater recharging projects statewide that would be billions of dollars less expensive for rate payers than constructing a new version of the Peripheral Canal or major new surface storage dams. Meanwhile, these projects move communities towards water sustainability.
- Retiring thousands of acres of impaired and pollution generating farmlands in the southern San Joaquin Valley and using those lands for more sustainable and profitable uses, such as solar energy generation.
- There has been research conducted by Economist that found that it will be far less expensive to purchase and retire hundreds of thousands of acres of the before mentioned farmlands of the southern San Joaquin Valley.
- Improving Delta levees in order to address potential earthquake, flooding, and future sea level rise concerns at a cost between \$2 to \$4 billion and is orders of-magnitude less expensive than major conveyance projects that are currently being contemplated.
- Increasing freshwater flows through the Delta to reduce pollutants so ecosystems and wildlife can be restored.
- Installing fish screens at the south Delta pumps to reduce the current salvage of marine life.

#### In Summary

The Delta has problems that need to be addressed, but the CA Water Fix tunnels are a 20th century idea that won't fix them. It won't produce more water, more reliable supplies, or improved conditions for the environment in the Delta.

The new EIR/EIS has not adequately addressed my above stated concerns. That is why I oppose the Delta Tunnels/California Water Fix (Alternative 4A).

Reclamation and DWR should prepare and circulate a new Draft EIR/EIS that will include alternatives that reduce water exports and increase Delta flows for consideration by the public and decision-makers. Such alternatives have a far better chance of complying with the Delta Reform Act and the federal Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

Regards,



Howard Itow  
Rocklin, CA

October 22, 2015

TO: The Bay Delta Conservation Plan/ California Water Fix

\* Delta Tunnels

FROM: Linda M. Castro

I hope this email reaches you in good health and in good spirits.

This email is only to voice my thoughts and argue the need for water here in the Northern Region of California. You know as well as everyone else that resides in this state how much we are hurting. The water that you presume to ship to Southern California I'm sure is in good faith,

"But how can you 'Take from Paul, to give to Peter'"

It makes Absolutely "NO SENSE!"

The majority of our vegetation, food supplies and resources come from our 2500 Hard Working Farmers and field workers who struggle to keep us, as a Whole People alive. There are nearly 4 million people in the Delta area who contribute to the economy each year. So, if you cut, ship, transport or Tunnel our water supply, aren't you also causing more harm than good; to only feed into an already burning field, "HOW are you helping?"

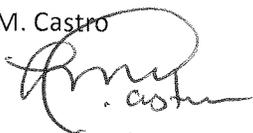
In Closing, YOUR 'Delta Tunnels' Project could cause further damage at the Californians expense. I'm sure you sleep at night without concerns of where you'll find a drink of water or where your next meal will come from. You swore to 'HELP' the people, not bury us alive. (I was once told as a child to fight for my beliefs and my rights. Get a good education & go to college. Pay my dues and never keep Uncle Sam waiting. Maintain good hygiene and health insurance. I've kept up my end of the bargain. I pay ALL my dues, work for a living and support a healthy family) We've all made changes to accommodate the needs of our beautiful State of California. ?Why can't you?

Stand-up and re-evaluate the needs of the people.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Linda M. Castro



421 Rosina Ave  
Modesto, Ca 95354

OCT 27 2015



RECIRC 2848

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix  
("Delta Tunnels") public comment period is  
**ENDING ON OCTOBER 30!**

San Joaquin County residents have a unique opportunity to have their voices heard by submitting comments or resubmitting previously sent comments.

**Mail:** BDCP/WaterFix Comments, P.O. Box 1919, Sacramento, CA 95812  
or **Email:** [BDCPComments@icfi.com](mailto:BDCPComments@icfi.com)

### **FAST FACTS**

- Under the Governor's plan, the California Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are taking public comments on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix.
- The project would build three giant water intakes, each longer than three football fields, to draw water from the Sacramento River to feed through the tunnels.
- The project could cause further harm to the unique and fragile Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- The WaterFix does not provide a single drop of new water and could severely impact Delta communities.
- The Delta region is home to nearly 4 million people, including 2,500 farmers who contribute \$2 billion to California's economy each year.
- At an estimated cost of \$15 billion, the people of California deserve a better solution and a more prudent investment to address the state's water supply needs.

Linda Castro  
421 Rosina Ave  
Modesto, CA 95354  
A 'Native Californian'  
WHO CARES!



To: BDCP / Water Fix Comments  
P.O. Box 1919  
Sacramento, CA. 95812

OCT 27 2015

RECIRC2848