July 13, 2018 via email

State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comment Letter – Revisions to Proposed Bay-Delta Plan Amendments

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the State Water Resources Control Board,

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society writes to encourage the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) to increase minimum flow requirements for the San Francisco Bay-Delta and its tributaries. Our mission is to promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of birds and other wildlife by engaging people of all ages in birding, education, and conservation. The Southern Delta and Lower San Joaquin River ecosystems are important to our organization, as the ecological integrity of these systems and their tributaries are intricately linked to the success of shorebirds migrating along the Pacific Flyway – a major north-south flyway for migratory birds in America.

While we appreciate the Board’s unprecedented decision to increase minimum flow requirements for the Lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries, we ask that you amend the Bay-Delta Plan to require a 60% unimpaired flow instead of the proposed range of 30% to 50%. Science shows that a 60% unimpaired flow in the San Joaquin River would be needed to adequately restore this delicate ecosystem and protect fish and wildlife from additional population declines. It is unlikely that a 30% flow requirement will return the Lower San Joaquin River to a thriving, functional ecosystem.

We hope that increased flow requirements will help to alleviate the existing ecological crises in the Delta, and restore habitat quality for the birds, fish and wildlife that rely on this important ecosystem.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Mossing
Environmental Advocacy Associate
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the State Water Resources Control Board,

Please find the attached letter from the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society regarding the Revisions to Proposed Bay-Delta Plan Amendments.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Mossing
Environmental Advocacy Associate
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