

From: Sonia Diermayer [sodier@mindspring.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 5:39 PM
To: Satkowski, Rich@Waterboards
Subject: Restore Delta flows!

Dear State Water Board Members,

I am extremely concerned about the relaxation of Delta outflow standards based on requests by water diverters, both agricultural and urban. Neither sector has done nearly enough to reduce its unsustainable uses of surface water and groundwater in the face of California's perennially summer dry climate, not to mention the current drought.

The waiving of environmental freshwater standards and increases in pumping in the south Delta, on top of the lack of snowmelt runoff, are creating devastating conditions for the smelt and various other endangered Delta species.

According to recent information, the SWP has already pumped almost three times the amount of water that its urban agencies claimed they needed to meet "health and safety" needs. We cannot allow irrigation of decorative landscaping and unsustainable, non-essential crops to become the final straw driving these Delta species to extinction. It is not just about "a tiny fish", but rather the survival of the entire aquatic ecosystem at the heart of California's geography, culture and economy.

I request that you take immediate action to restore Delta freshwater flows for the environment this month and to ensure that those mandates are complied with. Secondly, I strongly urge you to reject any further requests for TUCP easing of standards or increased SWP or CVP pumping in the coming months.

Please stand firm against water diverters's demands. They must step up with long-overdue demand reduction strategies. The environment cannot give any more!

Sincerely,

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