



Dear Board Members,

Recovering salmon populations need adequate flows from the Merced, Tuolumne, and Stanislaus Rivers. The Board is currently considering amendments to the 2006 Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan objectives that pertain to the Lower San Joaquin River (Phase I of the Plan update), and has released a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) reviewing the environmental impacts of its proposed objectives. The Board has currently recommended a standard of 35% of unimpaired flows from the Merced, Tuolumne, and Stanislaus Rivers, which are east-side tributaries to the Lower San Joaquin River. This flow requirement loosely resembles the current, woefully inadequate flows that are hastening the extinction of migratory fish populations. The Board's 35% flow recommendation also contradicts its 2010 flow criteria report, in which it concluded that the 60% of unimpaired flow from the Lower San Joaquin River would be necessary to restore fish populations. We need more flow to restore migratory fish populations to their historic levels!

Hons. Jim and Diana Prola