



In 2010 the State Water Board issued a report titled *Development of Flow Criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecosystem* that determined that approximately 60% of unimpaired flow between February and June would be fully protective of fish and wildlife in the lower San Joaquin River and its three major tributaries.

Many important aspects of California life depend on adequate flows in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River systems:

- The salmon industry
- River-based and wildlife-based recreation and tourism
- Agriculture on the prime farmlands of the Delta region
- Water quality for the residents in other regions, such as the San Francisco Bay Area, that import water from the Delta and the river systems

Over eons, this water has flowed through the Delta to the sea. Many natural and human systems have developed based on this water. No one needs the water more than the original users: Fish, wildlife, and residents of the watershed.

For all these reasons, it is obvious that flows of 60% of the unimpaired flow should be required from January to June. In addition, summer flows should be sufficient to maintain a healthy environment for the fish and wildlife that depend on them for survival.

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