

Chapter 7

Comments from Individuals

Chapter 7

Comments from Individuals

This section contains copies of the comment letters received from individuals, listed in Table 7-1. Each letter is followed by responses to the comments presented in that letter. Responses to comments are numbered individually in sequence, corresponding to the numbering assigned to comments in each comment letter. The responses are prepared in answer to the full text of the original comment.

Table 7-1. Individual Comments Received on the Draft EIS/EIR

Code	Name
PET	Petition, signed by many
OL	Opposition letter, signed by many
LB	Logan Bauer
JB	Jeffrey Becker
AB	Alexis Blaess
JC1	Jim Collins
JC2	Jerry Creech
RC	Richard Cunningham
RMD	Richard M. Davis
LED	Larry E. Dennis
LHF	Lanny H. Fisk, PaleoResource Consultants
JMF	JoAnne M. Frudden
KG1	Keefe Goldfisher
JLG	Dr. & Mrs. John L. Graham
BG	Bonnie Gray
DAG	David A. Guerra
KG2	Karrey Guerra
MH	Matthew Haskett
CWH	Charles W. Helfrick
DH	Diana Hickson

Code	Name
FH	Freda Hofland
JEH	James E. Hunter
RI	Richard Izmirian
PJ	Phil Johnson
JK	John Keeley
NK	Nancy Kops
PBL	Peter B. Lund
RML	Robert M. Lyman
JIM	James I. Mangels
DM	Danielle Martin
GMM	Grace M. Marvin, Julian C. Zener
FM	Frank Middleton
WSM	William S. Middleton
VM	Vicki Munoz
SN	Steven Nozet
AP	Alyssa Parsons
MP	Maria Perales
JGP	Joseph P. Petrofsky
JDP	Jim and Diana Prola
SR	Sky Rashby
MAR	Mary Ann Robinson
JS	Jan Saxton
BS	Brian Staab
DT	Dennis Thomas
BS2	Brad Strong
JL	Joe LoBue
CC	Carol Chapman
WR	William Riess
AH	Amanda Hassit
AD	Alan Deane
VWC	Robert J DiPrimo, President

Comment Letter PET

	PET
	JAN 27 2006 00079
PETITION AGAINST THE SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM	
<p>I oppose the South Delta Improvements Program. The EIR/EIS should be withdrawn. The Delta ecosystem and fisheries need to be restored and self-sustaining before consideration is given to increasing water exports.</p>	PET-1

		JAN 27 2006	000 79
NAME	Address	PHONE	EMAIL
Patricia Miller	PO BOX 4858, San Jose, CA ⁹⁵¹⁵⁰ 95150	(408) 528-3442	
MIKE Overmyer	620 Tanbark C ⁹⁵⁷⁶² CT EDH		
PAUL CHOW	1127 ULLAGE Dr #9 Belmont CA ⁹⁴⁰⁰²	(707) 363-3729	
Pete Rodriguez	140 Ashlan Dr Napa CA ⁹⁴⁵⁵⁸	707 2520891	
WALLACE LEE	1547 - 7th AVE SF CA ⁹⁴¹¹²	walee54@hotmail.com	
RICKY CABUDAY	2962 CLOW BUDEN CT. S.J. CA. ⁹⁵¹⁴⁸	RCABUDAY@YAHOO.COM	
Scott Woodward	341 Olson rd Saguai Ca ⁹⁵⁰⁷³	831 4750918	
TIM Coffey	2937 Lincoln Ave Alameda CA ⁹⁴⁶⁰¹	510 3774920	
MARK ENGLISH	3178 Lucas Dr Lafayette CA ⁹⁴⁵⁴⁹	925-766-2718	
Richard Fernandez	1443 Harrieta ave Los gatas CA ⁹⁵¹³⁰	408-377-4379	
William LEMP	2688 Eaton AVE. SAN CARLOS, CA ⁹⁴⁰⁷⁰	(650) 208-8863	
John Medina	3624 Hollister AVE. CAR. ⁹⁵⁶⁰⁸	(916) 944 ³²²²	
JERRY SOUZA	3422 Plumias-ARBOR ^{marysville} Rd ⁹⁵¹⁰¹	(530) 742-9199	
ALEX PELLEGRINI	1176 CHESTNUT SAN FRANCISCO, CA. ⁹⁴¹⁰⁹	(415) 474-3986	
Beal Miller	3228 Kintee D. San Jose CA ⁹⁵¹³³	408 729-3718	
TOM MAREN	021 LINDA MESTRE SD CA	408 0292602	
DAVE CARDOVA	3284 MATTOS AV SJ, CA ⁹⁵¹³²	408 251-1936	
DALE MYER	PO BOX 153 CLAYTON CA ⁹⁴⁵¹⁷	925 6850235	
Hugh Manix	3972 Baldwin Ct Fremont CA ⁹⁴⁵³⁶	510 5047240	
CRAIG WOOD	328 GRAVE ST. HUNTINGTON ⁹⁴⁰¹⁹ NY	(650) 726-9011	
Sylvia Faulson	2725 S. Bolivar ^{Veradale} WA ⁹⁹⁰³⁷	509-891-7743	
Greg Scoles	2828 S. NORFOLK ST. CA ^{San Mateo} ⁹⁴⁴⁰³	(650) 867-0829	
Steve Balestrieri	570 Rockdale DR SPCA ⁹⁴¹¹⁷	415 806-6155	
Steve Takagi	5461 Begonia Dr. San Jose ⁹⁵¹²⁴	408-221-1385	
PODWEY FONG	145 SEFFERS ^{San Francisco} SA ⁹⁴¹³³	415/307-6106	
STEVE SENA	20 ROBERT PL MILLBURN ⁹⁴⁰³⁰	650 620486	

Name	Address	Phone
CARL LARSEN	2600 Los Amigos Rd ^{NAPA}	707-224
PAUL SARBANT	117 MOKELAN ALAMEDA SK	
John Sababah	520 ARBALLO DRIVE (SL) 94	
Renee Silva	13600 Montfort Av. ^{Herald} CA 95238	(209) 74
PAT L'ITALIEN	7821 LORIN AVE SAC 95828	916-383-39
Dennis Smith	P.O. Box 1616 Santa Cruz, CA 95061	831-426-41
Cheryl P. Lucchesi	P.O. Box 82 Meridian CA 91403	
James S.K. Peterson	11 E. 41st PL, APT. D SAN MATEO CA	650-527
DAVID STAEK	38 MILL VALLEY PARKWAY MILL VALLEY	415-886-31
Bruce Gordon	PO Box 354 Mill Valley 94942	
John Troxell	4621 Clipper Dr. Discovery Key 94514	925-513-2
PAUL TROYELL	563 Cooper DR Benicia, CA 94510	707-746-1.
Steve Brookshire	2266 Mt. Whitney DR. Pittsburg CA	925-628-09
JIM BLACKBURN	943 SNOW DR. MARTINEZ CA	925-372-66
FRED VIRGILIO	2620 MONSERAT AVE BELMONT CA.	650-593-2
Jim Mancuso	1139 Fernwood Millbrae	650 871-013.
Lawrence C. Neno	439 Dahlia St Fairfield CA	707 738-718
Sara Stoker	1791 Laurel St Gridley CA	530 846-11
David Anderson	1791 Laurel St Gridley CA	530 846-11
TOM PADERANT	2004 LYON AVE, BELMONT	650-674456
SAM ALUSA	63 Cove Lane Redwood City	650-596-733
Ryan Adair	876 S. Oak St. Ukiah CA 95482	707-462-38
JEFF KROPMANN	1672 PRIMROSE D WILHITTS CA 95970	707 959-78
BRUCE MARTIN	3455 SCOTTLAND DR. TURLOCK CA	209-667-55
Jeremy Light	669 47th Ave. S.F. CA 94121	(415) 28-7969
Emma Orsapa	5 Dorchester Dr. D.C. CA 94015	
Kenneth Smith	25 Alvarado St. S.F. CA 94110	(415) 688-5

JAN 27 2006 00079		
NAME	Address	PHONE, E-MAIL
BART BUNDESEN	PO Box 52	baymud@hotmail.com
J. S. Dudley	2040 Merano Dr. S.B. 94066	JosephDudley@gmail.com
K. Loo	2900 Merano Dr S.B. 94066	
Blaine Bonacci	2090 Pine St Martinez	925 372 7300
Jeffrey Caldwell	2625F Coffee Rd. #135, Modesto 95355	208 845-8470
Ray Yoo	5053 Palmetto Pacific 94024	mn 4 Big Fish No
Dean McVey	1864 Landana Dr. Concord CA 94519	925-363-4310
ARUEL CIEGG	37387 CHERRY ST, NIMARK, CA 94560	510-742-0118
Rish Zolinger	498 Bayview Pacific 94044	6503558322
Walter Meyer	1827 Lafayette Alameda 94501	WMEYER@CUNY.EDU
Gerald McKay	500 West I St Benicia, CA	707-745-2422
Louise McKay	500 W.I St. Benicia CA	707 745-2421
JAMES COBB	4721 Presset Rd SL	707 586-9172
Rita Palak	8546W Carmelita	209-392-6308
Stephen Paulick	116 Rawlings Ct. Folsom CA	916-983-5441
MIKE PETERSON	960 LAGUNA AVE FURLINGAME CA 94010	650-347-2527
Syvester Gridby Jr	5402 Glenwood CT, El Sobrante CA 94803	510 758-5481
MIKE CASEY	1071 CARRARA way LIVERMORE	925-243-9669
Michael Peckham	17960 Squirrel Haven La Mesa	520-878-8239
PAUL JEMROE	2243 70th AVE S.F. CA. 94116	415-661-8825
Walter Meyer	6067 Donna Ct Redwood Park 94928	KRUBERT@BBEGlobal.com
JR POTTER	200 13TH ST - VALLEJO CA 94590	JRPFISHINTI@colli.ca.gov
Richard Janyra	27088 S. CORRAL HOLLOW RD TRACY CA 95377	209-835-6065
Neal Cameron	839 Rio Chico Way Chico CA 95926	
Bob Cameron	1200 Majilla Ave Buckeye CA 94610	650-344-6639
DAVID Potter Sr	200 13TH ST VALLEJO CA 94590	707-642-2419

JAN 27 2006 . 000 79		
NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE / E-MAIL
CYRIS WOLFGRAM	827 RIDDY LN. SUFUNK CA 94585	707-422-3059
JAY JACKSON	177 BRUSH CREEK RD SANTA ROSA CA 95404	707-539-1606
JASON LEONBERG	7 NORTH COURT MARTINEZ CA.	925-360-6871
Allan Castillo	19 Ridgefield Ave Daly City Ca.	650-992-8260
CHRIS RIVERA	812 DOVER HERCULES Ca 94547	510-799-4325
George P. Barley	597 OXFORD ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94134	415-333-3187
GEOFFREY MATSUMOTO	2041 ROSS PLACE WAKOBT CREEK CA 94597	510-730-0484
<i>[Signature]</i>	201 Williams St. San Francisco Ca. 94124	407 2626
Don Edg	12704 MCKENZIE RD CALIF 95632	209-745-3917
Andy Lee	110 Van Ness St SF	510-568-2041
Joe Reeves	534 Chaslerfield dr. Pittsburg	209 817 3667
Tim Flynn	1414 AGRICULTURE AVE	209-892-4167
KETHA NG	5060 CONSTITUTION WAY, SAN JOSE	408 264-4957
Jim Malapades	7351 Granite Ridge Carson City NV	775 849 8467
Robert Jahnke	2418 GOODWIN AVE REDWOOD 94061	650 3689192
Mike Castle	301 EVANS AVE VALLEJO CA 94590	707 556-9020
Robert Fainelli	327 EVANS AVE VALLEJO CA 94590	(707) 647-0614
John Loutch	353 THE ALAMEDA SA 94566	415 457-6846
Robert Santos	41433 APRICOT LA FREMONT 94539	510-656-7392
Samuel Tjoa	2148 Santa Ventura Dr Los Altos 94027	650-967-7517
DAVE HILLARD	9800 WESTFACIA WAY ELK GROVE	916-230-5150
Ken-g Mac	729 CALICO AVE SAN JOSE CA	408 578 6233
STEVE	814 RIVERA ST MILPITAS CA 95035	STEVE-ROSTER@COMCAST.NET
VERA LOSKUTOFF	1869 BAHIA ST. SAN MATEO, CA 94403	650-349-5323
Chris Hsing	10 Highlands Ct Belmont CA 94002	650-992-5894
Bill Moser	925 HOWARD AVE B'G AMERICA	925 343-5910
Jim J...	530 JACARANDA ST	925 784 0411

NAME	ADDRESS	JAN 27 2006	00079 PHONE/E-MAIL
Stewart F Martin	20 Marsily St San Francisco Ca		415 2391481
Amy Lawrence	11 General Scotts Valley CA		831-335 4888
GARY YOUNG	1074 LEHIGH VLY. CIR. DAVISVILLE, CA		510 923-3025 ✓
JASON CORNELL	3007 G Street		925 584-1880
JOE CORNELL	1024 Dolores Dr. Lafayette Ca. 94549		925) 234-3722
STEPHEN CAVELLIN	P.O. Box 938 KENWOOD, CA 95752		707-544-4442
Marshall Cochrane	2221 Harbor View Drive ^{Martinez} Ca		510-504-8321
BILL N. ECK	101 MAIN ST C HUMB CA 94019		(510) 712 9949
STEVE BANKS	125 DIAMOND ST. SANBRUNO, 94066		(510) 503-1560
STEPHEN MCKEE	546 PALM AVE So San Francisco CA 94080		650-588-6525
MARK SMITH	830 GALE DR CAMPBELL CA 95008		408-898-6526
Doreen	16210 CG Alameda Rd L. C 95032		408 8585520
MARSHALL COON	4791 CHARLOTTE WAY Livermore CA 94550		925 377-5900
Charles Moore	743 Fallon Ave Santa Clara CA 95050		408 248-2178
Daniel Montes	P.O. Box 3866 Turlock CA 95381		
Ryan Casagranon	2228 1st St BENICIA CA 94510		707 246-6909

Responses to Comments

PET-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

Comment Letter OL

OL

January 26, 2006

FEB 09 2006 00184

Mr. Paul Marshall
Bay Delta Office
Dept of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

RE: Opposition Letter for the Proposed South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP)

Dear Mr. Marshall:

As a native northern Californian and sports fishing angler, I would like the record to state that I am adamantly opposed to the SDIP project.

The SDIP overview indicates that the water exports south is affecting fish migrations and water quality.

The states answer to this problem is the SDIP? This is a myopic temporary solution that may not work and would open up the possibility for more water exports south, further degrading the Delta.

Why aren't we looking at the real problem? Too much water being shipped south! What efforts are being made by the people/business/government on the user end to conserve the water that they are using today? Why aren't the agribusiness folks implementing more efficient irrigation methods? Why don't they use desalinization plants or start reusing treated wastewater?

The Delta water is not a wholesale commodity that can be sold to the highest bidder as it currently stands. This mentality is a big reason that the Delta is in the situation it is now regarding the degradation of the ecosystem and environment.

In closing, the SDIP project should not be approved. More emphasis on conservation and seeking other water resources besides the Delta should be seriously considered.

Sincerely,

(your name here)

OL-1

Responses to Comments

OL-1

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter LB

To: 19166536077	From: 2022691050	1-22-06 4:20pm p. 8 of 10
		LB
<p>January 22, 2006</p> <p>Paul A. Marshall California Department of Water Resources South Delta Branch 1416 9th Street, 2nd floor Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p>Dear Mr. Marshall,</p> <p>Regarding even more water being diverted from the San Francisco Bay delta:</p> <p>Please understand that our wild friends and their habitats are infused with the life essence of Mother Earth herself. If we are gentle and loving toward her and her creatures, then she will give us what we need in a balanced way.</p> <p>Please do what you can to preserve this watery ecosystem.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Logan Bauer 240 Monroe Dr Apt 511 Mountain View, CA 94040-1082 USA</p>		
		LB-1

Responses to Comments

LB-1

The effects of the SDIP on biological resources, including wildlife, are fully described in the SDIP Draft EIS/EIR in Chapter 6, which includes impact assessment for fish, vegetation and wetlands, and wildlife. Where a significant effect is found to result from implementation of the SDIP, DWR and Reclamation will implement mitigation measure(s) to ensure that the overall impact is less than significant.

Comment Letter JB

JB

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street-2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

FEB 09 2006 00178

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Hello, my name is Jeffrey Becker and I'm an 8th grader at St. Edward School in Newark, CA. I was assigned to write a Social Action Letter about something I am concerned with in our environment.

As I understand there is a large amount of water being pumped out of the delta's estuary system. I was very irate when I found out that California Department of Water Resources was planning to pump as much as 27% more water out of the delta.

This didn't make sense to me because we already new that its ecosystem was collapsing and we where still planning on pumping out millions of gallons of water each year from the delta.

JB-1

The Bay-Delta is the largest estuary in the western United States. About 40 to 60 percent of the Delta's fresh water is already diverted by state and federal agencies and exported south to supply San Joaquin Valley and Southern California. In the past 4 years, four species of the Delta fish have severely declined, along with the complex food web that sustains them.

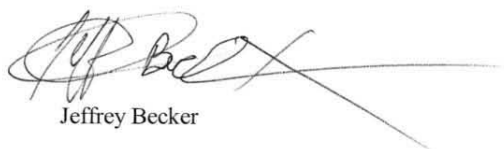
Even more alarming is that California is not even in a water crisis. In fact, according to the California Water Plan Update, California will meet its water needs now and even well into the future. Also the plan shows that the water demand in California will decrease over the next 30 years if there where large investments made in getting people to use water more efficiently.

JB-2

In conclusion I would like to say that if the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation renews its federal water contract that it will only encourage more pumping from the Delta. If the pumping continues our water quality will decrease, there will be a loss of habitat for fish and native fish will decline a large amount.

JB-3

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Becker

Responses to Comments

JB-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

JB-2

Please see Master Response L, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the California Water Plan Update 2005*.

JB-3

An evaluation of the effect on pumping resulting from Reclamation renewing contracts is beyond the scope of the SDIP EIS/EIR. The EIS/EIR does disclose the environmental impacts of increasing pumping at the Tracy and Banks pumping plants under Stage 2.

Comment Letter AB

AB

From: aliocha@earthlink.net
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2006 8:17 AM
To: Marshall, Paul
Subject: Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Mr. Paul Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street - 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Marshall,

Thank you for soliciting public comments in response to the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP) DEIR/S.

Most scientists agree that water diversions are one of the most significant factors contributing to the decline of fish populations in the Delta region.

Please withdraw the SDIP DEIR/S until the causes of the delta fish decline -- including water diversions -- are investigated and fully resolved.

AB-1

Sincerely,

alexis blaess
345 capricorn ave.
oakland, California 94611

Responses to Comments

AB-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

Comment Letter JC1

January 23, 2006 JC1

Paul A. Marshall
Dept. of Water Resources
South Delta Branch
% NCCFF
PO Box 8330
Berkeley, CA 94707

JAN 27 2006 00083

Dear Mr. Marshall;

This is a letter in opposition to the so called South Delta Improvement Program. The EIR/EIS are flawed and inadequate in addressing the damage the SDIP will do to the Sacramento Delta and the valuable fisheries that reside or pass through there. The plan is to steal northern California water and ship it to greedy, corporate farmers and real estate developers in the south. The delta is dying and the SDIP will be the last nail in the coffin. Please work to defeat this outrageous program.

Very truly yours,
Jim Collins
105 Lakeside Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925
415-945-3292

JC1-1

Responses to Comments

JC1-1

Section 6.1 of the SDIP EIS/EIR includes an evaluation of the impacts on aquatic resources expected to occur as a result of constructing and operating Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project. Reclamation and DWR have agreed to delay making a decision on Stage 2 of SDIP until additional relevant biological data are collected and analyzed. Please see Master Response B *Relationship Between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline* and Master Response K *Staged Decision-Making Process*

Comment Letter JC2

JC2

Copy
2

January 29, 2006

FEB 09 2006 00192

Director Lester A. Snow
16 - 9th Street, Room 1115-1
Sacramento, California 95814

E: SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

I have been boating on the Delta since 1978 and have lived in Discovery Bay since 1992. It is truly a marvel; this Delta was built over a hundred years ago. Imagine placing waterways above the land, an amazing accomplishment of our ancestors. Since it does not rain in Northern California all summer, it is imperative that we can have a viable delta to insure water for our farms, (the richest farm and in the world) and our population.

I attended last weeks hearing in Stockton not knowing anything about the subject and thought the meeting had to do with our levee system. The meeting lasted 2 ½ hours and the concentration was on exporting more water to Southern California. The fishermen were united in opposing the SDIP project due to the disappearance of the fish population. The fact that the sturgeon population has gone from 140,000 to 10,000 in just 5 years must be alarming to all. Farmers are finding salt on their land. This is a result of too much water going south, more pumping would only exacerbate this problem. A personal observation is that we are seeing more sea lions in Discovery Bay than I can ever remember. It used to be a rare occurrence and now I find them sleeping on my neighbors dock. It seems unusual since sea lions natural home is sea water.

The Delta consists of over 1 thousand miles of waterway, which is held up by levees. Without these levees there will be no water to send anywhere. I have observed these levees and it is imperative that they be properly maintained, not repaired after a failure. The improvements to the South Delta and entire Delta should start with maintenance of existing levees restoring the proper balance of fish population and make sure the ecology is in balance before the reckless deportation of water that makes the Delta viable.

I understand Southern California is in great need of water and there is not an easy solution. Your band aid approach to temporarily fixing Southern California water needs by exporting Delta water at the cost of possibly losing the Delta. When it is gone your short- sighted approach will rest with the future generations of Californians. Colorado river stands as a perfect example where it once flowed into the Gulf of California and now is almost dried up. This not only affects the Delta, but will also have a dramatic effect on San Francisco Bay and the entire state of California. The absence of fish speaks for itself.

Thank you for your consideration,



Jerry Creech
Discovery Bay Homeowner

Responses to Comments

JC2-1

Section 6.1 SDIP EIS/EIR includes an evaluation of the impacts on aquatic resources expected to occur as a result of constructing and operating Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project. Reclamation and DWR have agreed to delay making a decision on Stage 2 of SDIP until additional relevant biological data are collected and analyzed. Please see Master Response B *Relationship Between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline* and Master Response K *Staged Decision-Making Process*.

JC2-2

Section 5.3 of the SDIP EIS/EIR includes provides the results of the water quality assessment for both Stage 1 and Stage 2 of SDIP. Table 5.3-1 provides the results of the assessment of changes in salinity for Stage 1 and Table 5.3-3 provides the results of the assessment for Stage 2. For both Stage 1 and Stage 2, water quality in the interior south Delta is expected to improve.

JC2-3

] Flood control is not one of the SDIP project objectives. Section 5.2 of the SDIP EIS/EIR provides an assessment of the effects of the project on flood control and levee stability. The project elements have been designed to be flood neutral. Please see Master Response *Effects of the South Delta Improvements Program Stage 1 Tidal Gates and Dredging on Flood Elevations in the South Delta Channels*.

Comment Letter RC

RC

From: frc88@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2006 8:09 PM
To: sdip_comments
Subject: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street ? 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources,

Dear Decision Maker, It is time to stop messing around with the San Francisco Bay-Delta and rapidly finding solutions for California's emerging water crisis. The Northern California Watershed has become an overused resource that can no longer support the demands that are being placed upon it. We are sacrificing the most valuable & productive agricultural region in the world for the short-term profits of residential & commercial developers. Now it the time to establish definitive urban development limits. This means limiting population expansion & higher density cities; a plan for recharging aquifers in times of overabundance; and using the latest technologies potable & waste-water management; and revitalizing the Bay & Delta after years of abuse.

RC-1

RC-2

Sincerely,

Richard Cunningham
PO Box 38
Orinda, California 94563

Responses to Comments

RC-1

The SDIP is intended to balance the needs of the environment with the needs of the water users south of the Delta. Impacts identified as potentially significant will be mitigated to a less-than-significant level to ensure minimal effects on the environment.

RC-2

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter RMD

RMD

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street – 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

JAN 20 2006 00062

Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Thank you for soliciting public comments in response to the South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S.

Given the precipitous decline of Delta fish species, it makes no sense to move forward with a project that will “increase water deliveries” to state and federal water contractors by pumping even more water from the already stressed Delta ecosystem. This misguided project cannot move forward until the cause of the Delta fish decline is identified and resolved.

RMD-1

SDIP does not actually “improve” water quality or restore the Delta ecosystem. It simply directs water to state, federal, and local pumps to allow for more Delta diversions. SDIP should actually include an alternative that meets the essential goals of restoring the Delta ecosystem, improving water quality for biological needs as well as for consumptive purposes, and protecting Delta fish species.

RMD-2

If and when the project environmental review is reinitiated, the DEIR/S must, by state and federal law, include a reasonable range of alternatives. Currently, the DEIR/S only considers alternatives to increase Delta pumping and a no action alternative. At least one additional alternative that proposes a significant reduction in Delta pumping should be considered in a reinitiated DEIR/S. The goal of this alternative would be to restore the Delta ecosystem, improve water quality, and protect Delta fish species.

RMD-3

I urge that the SDIP DEIR/S be withdrawn until the causes of the Delta fish decline are identified and resolved. At the minimum, the SDIP DEIR/S should consider an alternative that significantly reduces Delta pumping from current levels. California does not need to increase Delta diversions to meet its current and future water needs. Increased investments in water use efficiency, reclamation, and conservation can meet our needs well into the future.

Please include me on your mailing list to be notified of any decisions or activities concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Name: Richard M. Davis Date: 1-13-06

Street Address: 707 MEDALLION CT,

City/State/Zip: LINCOLN, CA. 95648

Email: _____

Responses to Comments

RMD-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

RMD-2 and RMD-3

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter LED

LED

LARRY E. DENNIS



35170 Garcia Street Union City, CA 94587 Phone 510-471-6040 Larden9@aol.com

JAN 23 2006 00068

January 20, 2006

Mr. Paul Marshall
Dept. of Water Resources
South Delta Branch
1416 9th St., 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

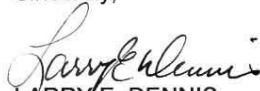
Subject: South Delta "Improvement" Project

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I oppose the actions proposed in the draft EIR/EIS for SDIP. SDIP is another attempt to appropriate additional water from the already-compromised Bay-Delta Estuary. The dredging, barriers and eventual increased pumping and water exports of SDIP will only worsen the Delta Ecosystem Crash (aka Pelagic Organism Decline). Instead of the measures you propose, measures that will benefit special interests such as Westlands Water District, I request the following: Withdraw the EIR/EIS. Reduce pumping rates and water exports to those that existed in the early 2000's when Delta Smelt appeared to be on the road to recovery, Increase ecosystem restoration measures. Improve water quality. Ensure the ecosystem of the Bay-Delta Estuary, including its fishery resources, is restored and self-sustaining before you consider appropriating more of its lifeblood (water). As California's Water Plan demonstrates, our needs will be met for several more decades through conservation, reclamation, efficiency and conjunctive use.

LED-1

Sincerely,


LARRY E. DENNIS

Responses to Comments

LED-1

Please see Master Response B *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*, Master Response K *Staged Decision Making Process*, and Master Response L *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and California Water Plan Update 2005*.

Comment Letter LHF

LHF

Dr. Lanny H. Fisk, PhD, PG
PaleoResource Consultants
F & F GeoResource Associates, Inc.
5325 Elkhorn Boulevard, #294, Sacramento, CA 95842
Office Phone: 530-885-9696; Mobile/Cellular Phone: 916-947-9594
E-mail: Lanny@PaleoResource.com

15 November 2005

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
South Delta Branch
Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Inadequacy of the SDIP DEIS/DEIR**

Mr. Marshall:

I have reviewed the joint Draft EIS/EIR (hereinafter DEIS/DEIR) for the South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP) and wish to comment on its inadequacy to address **paleontological resources (fossils – the remains or trace evidence of prehistoric plants and animals)**.

I note with considerable surprise and disappointment that **potential adverse impacts on paleontological resources resulting from construction of the SDIP physical/structural component have NOT been addressed in the DEIS/DEIR**. Because of the confusion created by CEQA including paleontological resources as a subset of cultural resources, it is not unusual for paleontological resources to be inadvertently overlooked in environmental review documents. However, the absence of a discussion of potential impacts on paleontological resources in the SDIP DEIS/DEIR is particularly surprising since an earlier environmental document prepared to address construction of apparently some of the same components concluded that that project would have **potentially significant adverse impacts on paleontological resources** (see pages 17-8, -12, -16, and -19 in the 1996 DEIR/DEIS on the Interim South Delta Program, California).

LHF-1

LHF-2

Paleontological resources are sensitive, nonrenewable resources. They are not threatened nor endangered; they are already extinct. Thus, it is absolutely essential that we preserve any evidence of them for future generations to study and enjoy. Once they are gone, they are gone forever. Yet, as important and as deserving of protection as paleontological resources are, I do not see anywhere in the SDIP DEIS/DEIR a discussion that addresses the following question in CEQA Environmental Checklist Section V: *Would the proposed project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site?* **The lack of a discussion on potential impacts on paleontological resources renders the SDIP DEIS/DEIR incomplete and inadequate.**

LHF-3

1 Comments on SDIP
from Dr. Lanny H. Fisk, Ph.D. PG
15 November 2005
page 2 of 3

I strongly recommend that the standard guidelines developed by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) for the mitigation of construction-related adverse impacts on paleontological resources be adopted for the SDIP. The SVP standard guidelines represent a consensus of professional paleontologists in the United States. They have been widely accepted by federal agencies (USFS, BLM, NPS, FERC, etc.) and California state agencies (CEC, CPUC, Caltrans, etc.) with responsibility to protect paleontological resources. Even some California counties (such as Orange) and cities have adopted SVP guidelines. The SVP guidelines are rapidly becoming the standard against which all paleontological mitigation is judged.

Briefly, SVP guidelines require that each project have a paleontological resource impact assessment, including literature and museum archival reviews and a field survey, before a project begins. Then, if the assessment concludes that there is a high potential for disturbing significant fossils during project construction, a mitigation and monitoring plan is prepared that includes monitoring by a qualified paleontologist to salvage fossils uncovered, identification of any salvaged fossils, determination of their significance, and placement of curated fossil specimens into a permanent public museum collection (such as the University of California Museum of Paleontology at Berkeley).

LHF-4

The SVP's standard mitigation measures ensure that adverse impacts to paleontological resources will be less than significant. Without an impact assessment by a qualified professional paleontologist before a project begins and appropriate mitigation measures during project construction, adverse impacts to significant paleontological resources are NOT reduced to a less than significant level as required by both CEQA and NEPA. Therefore, I strongly recommend that before the SDIP Final EIS/EIR is prepared and approved that the SVP standard guidelines be studied and included as part of the environmental mitigation measures.

California has a rich fossil record which needs to be protected and preserved for future generations to study and enjoy. That is clearly one of the reasons why paleontological resources are protected under CEQA. That is also why there is a State law protecting paleontological resources found in California Public Resources Code (PRC) Chapter 1.7, Section 5097.5 entitled **Archaeological, Paleontological, and Historical Sites** (Stats. 1965, c. 1136, p. 2792). PRC Section 5097.5 specifically mandates that *"No person shall knowingly and willfully excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure, or deface, any . . . vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints . . . or any other paleontological . . . feature, situated on public lands..."* and defines any unauthorized disturbance of a fossil site on public land or removal of fossil specimens from public lands in the State of California as a misdemeanor punishable by both fines and imprisonment. In writing this legislation and providing its title, the California Legislature sent a message that **paleontological resources are just as important as archaeological and historical resources**. To adequately address potential impacts of proposed projects on paleontological resources and provide adequate protection for them, environmental impact documents need to include detailed information regarding potential adverse impacts on paleontological resources and proposed mitigation to reduce any potential impacts to an insignificant level. The information provided regarding potential impacts on paleontological resources should be no less detailed than one would expect for archaeological, historical, or even threatened and endangered biological resources.

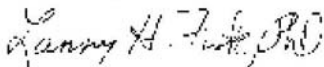
LHF-5

Comments on SDIP DEIS/DEIR
from Dr. Lanny H. Fisk, PhD, PG
15 November 2005
page 3 of 3

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the environmental review process for the SDIP. If you would like to discuss or have questions regarding my comments, please feel free to contact me via either e-mail (Lanny@PaleoResource.com) or phone (916-947-9594 or 530-885-9696). I am concerned that the record of our prehistoric past be protected and preserved for my children and my children's children to study and enjoy in the future. As California becomes covered with more and more concrete and asphalt, our fossil record is rapidly being either destroyed or rendered inaccessible. Many ground-disturbing projects undertaken in California in the past unfortunately have had unmitigated adverse impacts on significant paleontological resources. **The impacts on paleontological resources these development projects are defined by CEQA).** Appropriate mitigation measures could easily and inexpensively reduce the direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impacts on paleontological resources to a less than significant level and, in fact, could actually provide beneficial impacts by uncovering and then preserving in museums the fossil record for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

Thank you for listening and responding to my concerns. Please add me to the mailing list to receive copies of all future communications regarding this and related projects.

Respectfully,



Dr. Lanny H. Fisk, PhD, PG
Senior Paleontologist

LHF/tbm

XC: Ms. Sharon McHale
Mid-Pacific Region
U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Responses to Comments

LHF-1

Impacts on paleontological resources were not addressed in the SDIP Draft EIS/EIR because the previous analyses in the project vicinity suggest that the potential to encounter paleontological resources in the Holocene sediments affected by the proposed project is low (Entrix and Resource Insights 1996:17-1, 17-8, 17-10, 17-15–17-16; West 1994:34–35). Although the preponderance of evidence indicates that the SDIP would result in no impact on paleontological resources, Dr. Fisk is correct in pointing out that this finding should be disclosed in the EIS/EIR; the cultural resources section of the document now includes a paleontological resource assessment.

LHF-2

The Interim South Delta Program (ISDP) (Entrix and Resource Insights 1996:17-8, 17-12, 17-16, 17-19) does assert that paleontological resources may be potentially affected by the proposed project. The analysis contained in the ISDP, however, did not make full use of supporting documents for the ISDP or the geological literature. As a consequence of relying on minimal information, the preparers of the ISDP had little recourse but to conclude that the ISDP may have resulted in significant impacts on paleontological resources. Since the ISDP, DWR and other members of the project team have defined the limits of ground disturbance much more explicitly, and additional information sources relevant to assessing paleontological sensitivity were consulted to revise the cultural resources section. The combination of more precise project information and full use of literature sources relevant to paleontological sensitivity in the project area resulted in a clear finding that the SDIP would result in no impact on paleontological resources, as documented in the Final EIS/EIR.

LHF-3

The CEQA checklist is a tool for CEQA practitioners to use in impact analyses. It is not a regulatory authority, and meaningful impact analyses can be and are conducted without specific reference to the checklist in an environmental document. Nevertheless, Dr. Fisk correctly understands that the breadth of CEQA's scope and resource definitions clearly includes paleontological resources as a part of the environment for CEQA analysis.

LHF-4

The paleontological resources impact assessment in the Final EIS/EIR is consistent with the SVP Standard Guidelines.

LHF-5

A detailed paleontological resources impact assessment is included in the Final EIS/EIR.

Comment Letter JMF

JMF

January 26, 2006

JAN 31 2006 107

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
Department of Water Resources
South Delta Branch
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
1416 9th Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: South Delta Improvements Program

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I have been a property owner in the South Delta for over 65 years and have been very much aware of the decline of the Delta. Therefore, I am very concerned about what is outlined in the South Delta Improvements Program.

Step 1 of the Program is to install several permanent barriers on the River. Is it wise to do this when there is such a decline of the Delta, its levee system and the fish population?

Since Step 2 of the plan is to ship more water south, again, is this a good time to do more of what is already destroying our Delta? The decline of the Delta and the fish is a given fact. Obviously, we are sending too much water out of the Delta. Doing more of this will only do more harm to our water supply, our fish and the beauty of the Delta.

JMF-1

Sincerely yours,



JoAnne M. Frudden
11 Donna Maria Way
Orinda, CA 94563

Responses to Comments

JMF-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

Comment Letter KG1

KG1

Mr. Paul A. Marshall
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street – 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

JAN 25 2006 00072

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I'm hopeful you actually do read my letter, even though there was an active solicitation to write from the 'Friends of the River' which may overwhelm your office, and despite the fact that I agree with every one of their points and find them well-phrased and reasoned.

I really do appreciate the opportunity to address you in response to the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP) DEIR/S and I wanted to include my own remarks for what I think must be the direction of the water flow (increase flows into the Delta, rather than from it), because I must be like every other person far removed from the Delta: I look at that wondrous area, that I'm extremely unlikely to visit, and wonder what does it take to keep it alive.

For years I have given to 'Save-The-Bay' and 'Friends of the River' and many other environmental causes and always tried to persuade the stewards of the environment, someone like you, to see that in attempting to balance what are perceived as needs of the population of people against the life of the resource, that we are too often erring on the side of a compromise – we believe wisdom is seeing the middle ground in sharing for a need that is a few years out. This is the same logic that was used on the Colorado River and is now being played out as a disaster on the ecology, with still not enough water to share. The lands adjacent to the Colorado were viewed as a real estate revenue source for selling homes for which water had to be guaranteed. Once the population burgeoned and the silt began piling up in the manmade lakes, it was only a matter of time before the requests for more water would reemerge, as they have. The brave thing in the past would have been to not create the lakes and dams on the Colorado. The brave thing now will be to discourage any more populations from growing nearby. The brave thing in the future will be to remove the dams and allow the Colorado to flow again.

If the Delta is precious to us – precious in that it must continue to exist - then the SDIP drawdown must be squelched, because it will certainly imperil the Delta even more. The fish population will decline markedly in response to lower water levels. This is a given based on fish biology – they need room amid certain temperature constraints to breed. Take away the volume to breed... fewer will be able to spawn. This has already happened many times on many rivers around the world. Once there are fewer fish, other species suffer. Birds decline; water borne insects proliferate; salinity increases; the ocean encroaches more into the headwaters.

KG1-1

JAN 25 2006 000 72

Please show the courage not to compromise and actively defeat this proposal. Encourage every sort of reclamation, conservation and storage of rainfall alternative rather than encroach on this gem. Certainly, if someone like me, far removed from the area, can see the wisdom of its preservation, you, as one on the scene and a caretaker of the resource, would be most like to see this as a fair goal.

KG1-2

Please include me on your mailing list to be notified of any decisions or activities concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Keefe Goldfisher

Responses to Comments

KG1-1

Please see Master Response B *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline* and Master Response K, *Staged Decision Making Process*.

KG1-2

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter JLG

Dr. & Mrs. John L. Graham
6105 Skyline Blvd.
Hillsborough, California 94010

JLG

2-22-06

Calif. Department of Water Resources

FEB 24 2006 000219

Mrs. Paul A. Marshall
Berkeley, California

Dear Sir:

My husband and I urge to set of the
disastrous Delta pumping plan.

① We urge you to stop the SDP and
the cause or causes of the Delta fish
decline have been identified and resolved.

JLG-1

② At the minimum include or attend to
in a revised SDP that reduces pumping
from the Delta, improves water quality
and protects fish, and their habitat.

JLG-2

③ Implement the "Less Intensive Water Use"
scenario in California's own water
Plan, which shows that with sufficient
investments in water use efficiency
and reclamation, we can use less water
than we do today, and still meet our
needs for the next 30 years.

JLG-3

Dr. and Mrs. John L. Graham

Responses to Comments

JLG-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

JLG-2

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

JLG-3

Please see Master Response L, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the California Water Plan Update 2005*.

Comment Letter BG

		BG
		FEB 14 2006 00204
		2-8-06
		Paul Marshall, California Dept. of Water Resources 1416 9th St., 2nd floor Sacramento, CA. 95814
		Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/IS
		Dear Paul Marshall
		Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Study for the South Delta Improvement Program.
		I am concerned when the San Francisco Bay-Delta ecosystem is collapsing & some fish populations are in danger of extinction, a plan is being proposed that would significantly increase the amount of fresh water diverted out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta. The exact cause for the fish declines are still being investigated, but Delta pumping is one of the basic culprits. I dream of a healthy & vibrant water system. You can create the protection of our ecological health
BG-1		I urge you to withdraw the draft until the causes of the decline are identified & resolved. The restoration of the Bay Delta ecosystem is imperative for our future

FEB 14 2006 00204

BG-2

Please draft instead a revised Environmental Impact Report / Study which will include all reasonable alternatives, such as a significant reduction in Delta pumping from current levels.

I know that there are pressures to solve problems for our need for water. Let us look to our future with intelligence for the greater balance.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Gray
75 Avon Ave.
Mill Valley, CA.
94941

Responses to Comments

BG-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

BG-2

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter DAG

DAG

Paul Marshall
CA Dept. of Water Resources
1416 9th Street RM 115-1
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

February 5, 2006

FEB 07 2006 00148

Dear Mr. Marshall

I am writing you this letter to express my extreme disapproval of the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP). As a resident in Discovery Bay this project endangers my home and the safety of all of us who use the delta and call it our home. This project may cause flooding in our area during high tide season in winter and dangerous water conditions during the summer lower tide season.

DAG-1

This project would only benefit the residents in Southern California who do not use the delta and do not live here. They need to find another source of water or reduce their consumption of a resource that they do not have. Just like any other consumer be it water or power. If you don't have it you can't use it.

Regards,


David A. Guerra III


Cc: Paul Marshall

Mike Riehl
Director of Allied Fishing Groups

Responses to Comments

DAG-1

Section 5.2 of the SDIP EIS/EIR provides an assessment of the effects of the project on flood control and levee stability. The project elements have been designed to be flood neutral. Please see Master Response R, *Effects of the South Delta Improvements Program Stage 1 Tidal Gates and Dredging on Flood Elevations in the South Delta Channels*.

Comment Letter KG2

KG2

Paul Marshall
CA Dept. of Water Resources
1416 9th Street RM 115-1
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

February 5, 2006

FEB 07 2006

00195

Dear Mr. Marshall


I am writing you this letter to express my extreme disapproval of the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP). As a resident in Discovery Bay this project endangers my home and the safety of all of us who use the delta and call it our home. This project may cause flooding in our area during high tide season in winter and dangerous water conditions during the summer lower tide season.

KG2-1

This project would only benefit the residents in Southern California who do not use the delta and do not live here. They need to find another source of water or reduce their consumption of a resource that they do not have. Just like any other consumer be it water or power. If you don't have it you can't use it.

Regards,


Karey Guerra


Cc: Paul Marshall
Mike Riehl
Director of Allied Fishing Groups

Responses to Comments

KG2-1

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter MH

To: 19166536077	From: 2022891050	1-21-06 1:33am p. 7 of 10
		MH
<p>January 20, 2006</p> <p>Paul A. Marshall California Department of Water Resources South Delta Branch 1416 9th Street, 2nd floor Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p>Dear Mr. Marshall,</p> <p>Please do not divert even more water from the SF Bay-Delta. Low levels of water already threaten this important ecosystem!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Matthew Haskett 2561 Jubilee Dr Turlock, CA 95380-8432 USA</p>		
		MH-1

Responses to Comments

MH-1

The effects of the SDIP on biological resources, including fish, are fully described in the SDIP Draft EIS/EIR in Chapter 6, which includes impact assessment for fish, vegetation and wetlands, and wildlife. Where a significant effect is found to result from implementation of the SDIP, DWR and Reclamation will implement mitigation measure(s) to ensure that the overall impact is less than significant. Additionally, DWR and Reclamation have committed to a Stage 2 evaluation as explained in Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

Comment Letter CWH

**MCCAHAN,
HELFRICK,
& THIERCOF
& BUTERA**
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

1655 WILLOW STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95125, (408) 266-4755 / FAX: (408) 266-0825

CWH
J. Bruce McCahan, C.P.A.
Charles W. Helfrick, C.F.A.
Raymond J. Thiercof, C.P.A.
James F. Butera, C.P.A.
Thomas A. Dowling, C.P.A.
Robert K. Taylor, C.P.A.
J. Mitchell Baio
* Retired

FEB 09 2006 00168

January 30, 2006

Director Lester A. Snow
California Department of Water Resources
1416 - 9th Street, Room 1115-1
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP)

Dear Director Snow:

I am a homeowner in Discover Bay, California. The SDIP proposing 4 dams that will span end to end on selected canals allowing the pumping of an additional 5,000,000 gallons of water per day to Los Angeles and other Southern California locations will rob our fragile delta environment of more fresh water. This additional enormous outflow of fresh water being sucked out of the Delta will cause the salt water to intrude further into the Delta, degrading the water quality and lowering the water level.

CWH-1

I don't think anyone can argue that during our last drought, the pumping to Southern California had a very negative impact on the water quality of the Delta. The existing pumping changes the natural tidal flow of the area. With the capacity to pump 5,000,000 more gallons a day, the impact could be catastrophic.

I doubt that the Southern California backers of this plan have little or no regard for the impact of the project for homeowners like me. Hi tide swings due to winter rain and restrictive water flow caused by the dams will cause major damage to our levees, homes and docks. During the summer months when we have low tide combined with the capability to pump another 5,000,000 gallons of water each day will cause the delta in my area to see ultra low areas and mud bottoms.

CWH-2

I have a home that is worth \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 on a fresh water bay in Discovery Bay, California with access to all the delta. Increase salinity and decreased water depth will destroy the value of my home.

Please, kill this project before it kills the Delta!

Sincerely,


Charles W. Helfrick, C.P.A.

CWH:st

cc: Paul Marshall ✓
Mike Riehl
John Beuttler
State Senator Don Perata
State Senator Tom Torlakson
Assembly Member Guy Houston
State Senator Abel Maldonado
State Senator Joseph S. Simitian
Assembly Member Rebecca Cohn
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin

Responses to Comments

CWH-1

Section 5.3 of the SDIP EIS/EIR provides an assessment of changes in water quality conditions under SDIP Stage 1 and Stage 2. The analysis concluded that salinity in the interior South Delta would decrease and slightly decrease at Emmaton and Jersey Point for both SDIP Stage 1 and Stage 2. These changes were not substantial and were considered to be less than significant.

Section 5.2 of the SDIP EIS/EIR provides an assessment of changes in tidal elevations. The analysis concluded that operation of Stage 1 or Stage 2 would result in substantial change in tidal elevations within the Delta. Table 5.2-6 provides a summary of the expected changes.

CWH-2

Section 5.5 of the SDIP EIS/EIR addresses the potential for changes in flooding within the South Delta. The analysis concluded that the slight increase in hydrostatic pressure attributable and resulting negligible effect on levee seepage, settlement, or subsidence would not affect the flood protection provided by the existing levee system. Please see Master Response R *Effects of the South Delta Improvements Program Stage 1 Tidal Gates and Dredging on Flood Elevations in the South Delta Channels*.

Comment Letter DH

DH

From: dianahickson@cwnet.com
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2006 8:27 PM
To: sdip_comments
Subject: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street ? 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources,

CEQA requires an EIR to consider alternatives that reduce impacts on the environment. Clearly, the South Delta Improvement Project DEIR must include an alternative of reduced pumping from the Delta combined with conservation. | DH-1

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diana Hickson
9333 Sparks Way
Sacramento, California 95827

Responses to Comments

DH-1

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

Comment Letter FH

FH

From: towildwood@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2006 11:53 AM
To: sdip_comments
Subject: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street ? 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources,

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I would like to comment on the draft EIR/Study for the South Delta Improvement Program.

I don't see this as an "improvement". I oppose any increase of water diversions out of the San Francisco Bay-Delta. Let's instead, investigate alternatives, such as water conservation measures, for restoring the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

FH-1

We need to make the very best decisions based on the very best practices and scientific facts for the future health of our environment.

FH-2

Sincerely,

Freda Hofland
27070 Sherlock Rd
Los Altos, California 94022-4239

Responses to Comments

FH-1

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

FH-2

The SDIP Draft EIS/EIR represents a full-faith effort to disclose the effects of the SDIP actions to ensure that decision-makers, including DWR and Reclamation, have the best available information on which to base a decision. As described further in the Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*, DWR and Reclamation have committed to another CEQA/NEPA compliance document that will include any new information gathered during the POD investigations, prior to making a decision on increasing diversions.