

4 May 1998

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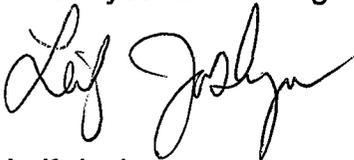
re: Restoration of the SF Bay and delta ecosystems

Dear Mr. Snow,

I am glad to know that the state and federal governments are trying to work together to ensure the long term health and integrity of California's primary watersheds. My concern rests with the age old pattern of bad deeds coming in the guise of good intentions. If this ambitious effort (CALFED Bay-Delta) is to have a truly positive effect then I believe it should recognize the following points:

- 1) More dams and canals or the enlargement of existing ones should be resisted. It is time to recognize limits to our state's resources and this includes water. Any proposal resembling the infamous Peripheral Canal should be burned and the authors banished from the state for eco-treason.
- 2) Restoration efforts should be paramount. With so many native fish species ailing and ruined wetlands the time is ripe for eco-reparations in the name of other life forms.
- 3) Water efficiency, conservation and reclamation programs are in order to make better use of existing water supplies. This should allow us to stop hogging all the water and give some back to the native life forms.
- 4) Education of the public is really as important as all of the above. Residents should be aware how badly our waterways have been punished. From the days of greedy gold miners washing down the hillsides to the present time of scurrilous developers rushing to pave over every last vestige of paradise, this legacy of desecration needs to be better known. Also, greater appreciation of how exotic species have totally transformed our state is long overdue. Again, the reality of limits to our resources needs to be brought to people's attention. The fantasy of never-ending growth is pernicious indeed and undoubtedly helps to fuel many of the misguided elements in the proposed alternatives. Call it ecological literacy, call it common sense, but please deploy it generously.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.



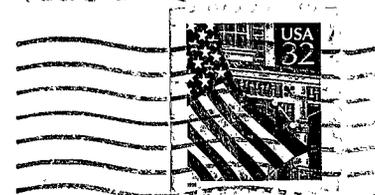
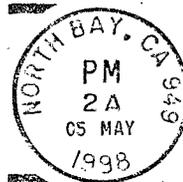
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