

JUN 26 1998

# SHASTA COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 492401  
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June 23, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow  
Cal-Fed Bay Delta Program  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Shasta County Cattlemen's Association (SCCA) submits the following comments relative to the three alternatives presented by CALFED:

It is extremely important that the Watershed Element of the plan be fully implemented. If we do not improve the watersheds, we will get neither the high quality nor the quantity of water that will be needed in the out years. We must reduce fuels buildup, thin overstocked stands, and reintroduce prescribed fire into the landscape. The plan has to address more than erosion control and stabilizing the meadows. This element of the plan must be one of its highest priorities!

SCCA is opposed to any alternative that extends the height of Shasta Dam. This proposal would require significant costs for the relocation of railroad, highway systems and resorts, in addition to the replacement of bridges over the newly created reservoir. It would also require the dislocation of a number of private properties in the canyons along the various arms of the newly created lake. The lake would have deeper canyons with no water in them in the late summer and fall and the "bathtub ring" affect would have a significant effect on the beauty of the lake.

SCCA would favor an alternative that calls for off-stream and in-stream storage in both the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. These storage facilities would take the high water runoff during above average winter storms and store it for maintaining the delta's water quality, especially during summer fish runs and low water years, or for agricultural and municipal use when needed.

SCCA also favors a plan that requires the beneficiaries of Northern California's water to "buy in" to the Watershed and Ecosystem Elements of the plan. This can be done by imposing a watershed/ecosystem restoration fee to those who would benefit from this program, which would provide the source counties with revenue to do the necessary watershed enhancement projects.

SCCA would recommend that the word "guarantee" be used rather than assurance. This would make the plan binding and would not redirect any impacts upon the source counties. It would also provide for greater buy-in by all.

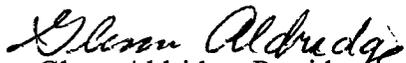
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SCCA would want guarantees written into the plan that neither personal property nor water rights would be tampered with in any way.

SCCA is also concerned about offshore fishing and its impact on anadromous fish.

And lastly, the Shasta County Cattlemen's Association doesn't care for any of the alternatives presented, and recommends that a new alternative be developed with these recommendations spelled out. To be successful, the plan must be fair and equitable for all!

Sincerely,

  
Glenn Aldridge, President  
Shasta County Cattlemen's Association

SHASTA COUNTY  
CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

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