



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

01176
Public

JUN 26 1998

Comment

Date 6/24

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program welcomes your participation. Please use the space below for your written comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).

Comments:

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Cal Fed written comments 6/10/98

Why the "ERP"

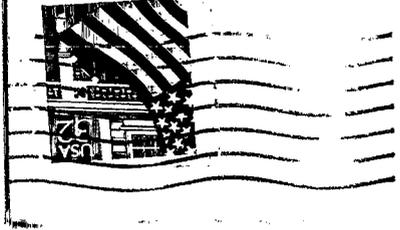
California needs to move water from the water surplus North to the water deficit South. The channels of the Delta have been used to move water through the Delta to the pumps at Tracy for 30 plus years. During those years the operation of the pumps have resulted in some unexpected negative impacts on the aquatic environment of the Delta. The Cal Fed program is trying to change the way water is moved through the Delta to avoid negative impacts on the aquatic environment. This in and of itself is something that all Californians should support.

I believe the water transfers must continue and must increase in volume if the economy of California is to prosper. Of the three Cal Fed proposals for transferring water through the Delta, I favor the one which allows for the greatest amount of transferred water with the least amount of negative affects on the aquatic environment. This is "fixing the Delta". Converting agricultural land for channel configuration, isolated facilities, levees and storage needs make sense in accomplishing the task, but why the "ERP".

Everything in the Cal Fed program is related to water except the "ERP". There is no need to remove up to 115,000 acres of Delta land from agricultural production in order to increase and make water transfer through the Delta more environmentally friendly. The "ERP" should be eliminated from the Cal Fed program for the following reasons:

1. It is not essential to the Cal Fed program objectives of water supply, water quality and Bay-Delta function.
2. It results in significant redirected impacts, a violation of solution principle 6, and will result in devastating socio-economic impacts on the citizens and communities of the Delta.
3. It will convert 115,000 acres of Delta farmland to other uses, which as a matter of good social and public policy should remain in agricultural production.

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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO

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