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JUL 01 1998

June 29, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
CalFed Bay/Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street - Suite 155
Sacramento CA 95814

Subject: Comments on Alternatives

Dear Mr. Snow:

I have attempted to remain informed on this program as it moves forward. Though there may be something I have missed, my conclusions are:

1. The program has as its goal to move water from Northern California to Southern California. I understand the interest in trying to portray it otherwise, but it makes the whole issue difficult to discuss when the discussion is not factual.
2. Water sellers here in Northern California are lending their support because they see the opportunity to stop farming and sit back to receive fat pay checks. That support will not be worth much when residents wake up to see that someone is selling a natural resource that rightfully belongs to everyone who lives here.
3. I don't see any emphasis on conservation by Southern Californians or for the need for them to cut back on population. The fact of the matter is that there are already too many people living in the Southern California. Sending in more water is hardly the answer. I understand that you are a water man and see the world through those eyes, but there is larger problem and more water is not the solution.
4. I understand that the program envisions up to 23 dams and dam enhancements. That is 1950's thinking; we've been there; it does not work. Water is a natural element, not an industrial fluid. The watershed has been trashed by years of overgrazing and logging; I have not seen that CalFed is seriously studying the natural retention capabilities of a healthy watershed.

My requests are:

1. That conservation by Southern Californians be brought up in the priority for all three alternatives; perhaps the problem is not a big as it appears.
2. That a fourth alternative be considered: To stop the pumps at Tracy; stop pumping any water out of the Delta to fill the swimming pools of Southern California. That

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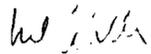
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alternative might provide the best chance for Delta restoration and would force Southern Californians to face their overpopulation earlier, rather than later.

3. That prior to building any dams to increase storage capacity, the upper watershed be restored to see if that will provide the needed storage.

Thank you for considering my views.

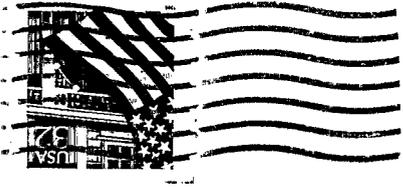
Cordially,



Michael A. Smith

xc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Representative Wally Herger
State Senator Tim Leslie
State Assemblyman Bernie Richter

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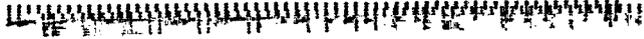


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WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO

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