

August 27, 1999

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Lester Snow
Executive Director
CalFed Bay/Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814
Topic: Restoring the Bay/Delta Ecosystem

Dear Mr. Snow,

I have recently become aware that CalFed is planning on creating means to supply agribusiness with new water supplies. This is great, in that, the farmers will be able to have access to clean, healthy and plentiful water supplies. BUT, what about the environment? Do the taxpayers want to support agribusiness, considering it may cost billions?

CalFed needs to access their priorities. Namely, the environment. If, agribusiness can easily get approval for the building of dams, reservoirs and a Peripheral Canals, why does saving the environment have no priority? The solution: CalFed needs to make a commitment to not build any new or expanded dam, reservoir or canal until the following environmental projects get full support and funding.

CalFed needs to:

1. Improve water quality for people and wildlife by preventing pollution at the source.
2. Increase investments in efficient water use and conservation, groundwater storage and management, pollution prevention, and drinking water treatment.
3. Lastly, restore the rivers, bays and wildlife habitat by providing firm guarantees of increased fresh water flows, and by caring for the bay lands and river lands.

I hope CalFed can find a medium, in which, both agribusiness, developers and environmental organizations can be sufficiently pleased. Let's help save our environment, restore the magnificent salmon runs, the "Pacific Flyway" migratory bird habitat and preserve the free-flowing rivers and bring the San Francisco Bay back to health.

Cordially,

Bernadette Rojas-Ramirez

Bernadette Elena Rojas-Ramirez

*Information on recent CalFed project provided by the Sierra Club and Friends of the River.