

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

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**Resolution No. 99-05****Statement Identifying Essential Elements That Should Be  
Incorporated Into the CALFED Program****SEP 22 1999**

**Whereas**, the health of the San Francisco Bay/Delta Estuary and the diverse ecosystems it supports are fundamental to the environmental well being of the entire Bay area; and

**Whereas**, much of the Bay Area's economic vitality is supported by the Bay/Delta estuary, including industries such as tourism and recreational and commercial fishing; and

**Whereas**, the Bay/Delta Estuary's health is in decline, manifested by various indicators including dramatic reductions in fish populations, and due to a variety of adverse impacts, including large-scale water diversion from the watershed's rivers, the loss of a majority of historic wetlands, and pollutant discharges into the Bay; and

**Whereas**, since 1994 the Federal Government and the State of California, in conjunction with agricultural, urban, and environmental stakeholders, have undertaken an effort to address the remarkably complex water resource issues of the Bay/Delta ecosystem through a process known as CALFED; and

**Whereas**, in the CALFED process the current public comment period for the Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS provides a critical opportunity for input on the issues affecting the San Francisco Bay/Delta Estuary.

**Whereas**, the *San Francisco Bay Plan* policies state:

- “ . Diversions of fresh water should not reduce the inflow into the Bay to the point of damaging the oxygen content of the Bay, the flushing of the Bay, or the ability of the Bay to support existing wildlife.
2. High priority should be given to the preservation of Suisun Marsh through adequate protective measures including maintenance of fresh water inflows.
3. The impact of diversions of fresh water inflow into the Bay should be monitored by the State Water Resources Control Board, which should set standards to restore historical levels (1922-1967) of fish and wildlife resources. The Bay Commission should cooperate with the State Board and others to ensure that adequate fresh water inflows to protect the Bay are made available.”

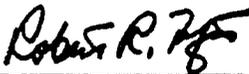
**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission does hereby identify that the following essential elements should be incorporated into future policies and programs undertaken by the CALFED process:

- **A guarantee that there will be adequate freshwater flows into the Bay.** The San Francisco Bay/Delta estuary's historic freshwater flows have been reduced by half. Currently there exists a need for scientific-based standards that establish minimum flows of freshwater into the Bay. Adequate flows will benefit the entire estuary in diverse ways, including improving water quality, supporting biological diversity, and the health of all of the Bay/Delta estuary's ecosystems.
- **Water conservation by all users.** Equitable water conservation practices must be required and enforced for all users throughout California. Managing demand through conservation practices and greater water use efficiency can eliminate or substantially reduce the need to construct new storage facilities. Until conservation practices and demand management have been implemented and monitored that would be fully protective of Bay resources, the construction of new storage facilities that would adversely affect the Bay should not be initiated.

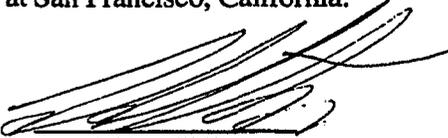
- **A fair share of funding for Bay Area environmental restoration efforts.** The Commission's Bay Plan, the recently-issued *San Francisco Bay Area Wetlands Ecosystem Goals* report, the EPA's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's Basin Plan all establish numerous measures that must be taken to protect and restore habitat and improve fish and wildlife in the Bay/Delta estuary. Of the most recent CALFED funding package only a small portion came to projects in the region. CALFED funding to implement these recommended programs should be brought up to levels that are appropriately proportional to budgets for environmental restoration in other parts of the State.

We certify that this resolution was adopted by a vote of 19 "Yes" votes, 1 "No" vote, and 1 Abstention at the Commission meeting held September 16, 1999.

Executed on this 22nd day of September, 1999 at San Francisco, California.

  
ROBERT R. TUFTS  
Chairman

Executed on this 22nd day of September, 1999 at San Francisco, California.

  
WILL TRAVIS  
Executive Director