Mr. Steve Ritchie, Acting Director
CalFed Bay-Delta Program

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CALFED Bay-Delta Program

8/14/00

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

I am writing to ask you to extend the time to read and comment on the final environmental report released July 21. I also believe Cal-Fed should hold public hearings on the plan, so we who must abide by it can understand how we fit into the plan.

I believe Cal-Fed should conduct habitat-restoration work on existing government owned land before it begins acquiring more land.

The government already owns half the land in California, yet 75% of the wildlife exists on privately owned land. We have done a better job of maintaining habitat than the government has.

Farming and Ranching is vital to our country and our state. Cal-fed needs to move more quickly to develop surface water storage with adequate yield to accommodate the increasing population and environmental needs. Water conservation cannot make the same strides it has made in the past. We will work to become more efficient, but drought will take a serious toll on California's environment and economy unless new storage with

additional yield comes on line soon

Sincerely,

George W. Wenzel