



# URBAN CREEKS COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

January 6, 1997

Mr. Lester A. Snow  
Executive Director, CALFED  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, California 95814

**SUBJECT:** CalFED Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan

Dear Mr. Snow,

The Urban Creeks Council has reviewed the "Implementation Objectives and Targets" for the CALFED Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan and we appreciate the opportunity to offer the following comments. The Urban Creeks Council is a community-based grassroots organization dedicated to the protection, preservation, restoration and enhancement of creeks and streams throughout California. Founded in 1983, we now have 4 chapters and about 30 affiliates throughout California, making us one of the foremost groups in California working on riparian restoration, fisheries enhancement, and water quality. We work on a wide variety of projects that include: education, development of volunteer water quality monitoring programs, training of conservation corps for stream restoration projects, slope stabilization, and wildlife habitat enhancement projects.

The Urban Creeks Council is in a unique position to represent the non-profit stream restoration movement with a large, growing, constituency of committed restoration ecologists, conservationists, stream activists, sport fisheries clubs, native plant experts, and other professionals such as landscape architects, hydrologists, and engineers. Our strong background with restoration and enhancement issues enables us to represent interests of the non-profit sector in areas of water quality, habitat protection, and fisheries enhancement. The CALFED program provides excellent opportunities to create cooperative ventures between non-profit, public and private sectors.

**The Urban Creeks Council wishes to participate in establishing a final direction for the program, and we strongly support the inclusion of the following projects in a list of funded riparian projects that meet the implementation objectives and target goals for improvement of anadromous fisheries populations and their habitat in Bay-Delta creeks and watersheds:**

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Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks; fish passage impeded by barriers.  
Walnut Creek; fish populations blocked by flood control drop structures.  
Garrity Creek; urban industrial setting; needs extensive revegetation.  
Roddy Creek; earthen channel in devegetated state; needs replanting.  
Pinole Creek; fish passage is impeded due to lack of good vegetative cover.  
Refugio Creek; creek impacted by industry and suburban tract development.  
Kicker Creek; impacted by industry; needs program for pollution reduction and monitoring.  
Codornices Creek; urban industrial creek; needs anadromous fish enhancement.  
Cerrito Creek; until late 1950's had a significant anadromous fish population.  
San Pedro Creek; channelized project in need of restoration.  
Alameda Creek; large creek in need of water level / use agreements that favor fish.

The Urban Creeks Council can assist in the formation of project teams and development of aquatic habitat projects, educational programs, community outreach, training of work crews and implementation of selected restoration projects. The CALFED program of water conveyance and ecosystem restoration provides the opportunity to unify the many groups with expertise in this area. We anticipate working with the various groups and agencies representing CALFED to identify and pursue projects that meet the objects of the program.

Sincerely,



Beth Stoue  
President, Urban Creeks Council

✓ cc: Mr. Dick Daniel; CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Manager