



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155 (916) 657-2666
Sacramento, California 95814 FAX (916) 654-9780

Curt Schmutte, Chief
Flood Protection and Geographic Information Branch
Department of Water Resources, Central District
3251 S Street
Sacramento, California 95816

Dear Mr. Schmutte:

CALFED has added the Suisun Marsh to its Levee Program as an optional strategy to meet its primary objectives in Water Quality, Ecosystem Restoration and Water Supply Reliability. This could impact your program, which has authority to provide State funding under the Special Delta Flood Protection Projects to repair 20 miles of Suisun Marsh levees bordering Honker Bay from Van Sickle Island westerly to Montezuma Slough.

CALFED's Suisun Marsh Levee Investigation Team, comprised of several CALFED agencies and stakeholders, is developing information on the costs, benefits, and linkages that the Suisun Marsh may have to CALFED's objectives. The Team has received and discussed preliminary findings of computer modeling for Suisun Marsh levee modifications run by the Department of Water Resources. The model runs study the hydrodynamic and salinity impacts of Suisun Marsh levee breaches. Initial results indicate that some breach scenarios within the interior of Suisun Marsh can significantly reduce the salinity in the Delta. Conversely, levee breaches on main channels such as those included in your Program would increase Delta salinity and make it more difficult for CALFED to meet its primary objectives.

Based upon water quality modeling results and a consensus of the Suisun Marsh Levee Investigation Team, reconstruction and repair of the Suisun Marsh levees bordering Honker Bay is consistent with the emerging vision of CALFED's long-term goals for the Suisun Marsh.

CALFED looks forward to working with you and your staff to implement actions in support of CALFED's goals in the Suisun Marsh and the Delta. If you have any questions, please contact Robert Cooke, CALFED Levee Program Manager at (916) 654-4479.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Ritchie
Acting Executive Director

— CALFED Agencies —

<p>California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Resources Agency Department of Fish and Game Department of Water Resources California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board Department of Food and Agriculture 	<p>Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Geological Survey Bureau of Land Management U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. Forest Service Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Western Area Power Administration
--	--	--