

September 28, 1998

John Ladd  
Division of Water Quality  
State Water resources Control Board  
901 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812

*Letter was finalized & sent PW*  
*File sent via e-mail to you Ricker. 9/29*  
*Steve*  
*Ok to send?*  
*Rick* 

Re: Proposition 204 Funds - Contra Costa District Veale Tract

Dear John,

This letter is in regards to the recent proposal entitled "Rock Slough Watershed Management Project" submitted by the Contra Costa District. The District hopes to receive funding for a feasibility study to determine mitigation alternatives to reduce the impacts of discharges and drainage on the District's water supply. If funded, this feasibility study will result in enhancement of a monitoring program which has been ongoing, the formation of a watershed stakeholder group as part of their Watershed Management Initiative, and an identification of the mitigation alternatives for implementation.

The purpose of this letter is to express CALFED Bay-Delta Program support for this study. The proposed study is consistent with the source control actions in the CALFED Water Quality Program Plan. Current studies indicate that relocation and/or treatment of agricultural drainage from Veale Tract are probably the most effective means to reduce impacts to Rock Slough intake, which is a source of drinking water supply for approximately 400,000 people. The CALFED Water Quality Program recommends in its plan to support pilot project level activities to determine net improvements in water quality associated with this type of mitigation. The Contra Costa Water District's feasibility project is an important step to achieving the information needed before pilot scale operations are funded.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program recommends approval of the Contra Costa Water District's proposal. The resulting information from this work will lead towards improving water quality in the Delta for beneficial uses. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 657-4765 or Judy Heath at (916) 653-2994.