

June 7, 1999

Mr. Kirk Rodgers  
Acting Regional Director  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mr. Michael J. Spear  
California/Nevada Operations Officer  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 120  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Messrs. Rodgers and Spear:

Pursuant to our recent conversations, enclosed is a draft proposal that describes a pilot project to benefit riparian vegetation along the San Joaquin River. The project is an outgrowth of the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program and we are submitting this draft to you in hopes that the Interior Department can pursue the project on our joint behalf. The project involves a five-month water management regimen that offers environmental benefits while ensuring no loss of water supplies to the Friant service area. As such, it provides an immediate opportunity to help enhance and restore the riparian environment in the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to the Mendota Pool without adversely impacting the Friant Unit. The project will be contingent on a water exchange to insure that there are no impacts to any water users' supplies. This project has been developed by our organizations in close coordination with the Riparian Program and other environmental and water user groups. We would like to begin to implement this pilot project in mid-June 1999 and have already begun to work with your staff in that direction.

The initial cost estimate for this pilot project is approximately \$2.5 million including the cost for agreements to wheel, exchange, purchase, and pump water and to monitor and report on the overall program. Your support in funding this effort is greatly appreciated.

Also, for your information, we are cooperatively developing a proposal for a demonstration groundwater recharge project which we hope to discuss with you in the coming months.

If you have additional questions please don't hesitate to call either of us or Dan Fults or David Behar at (916) 441-1931 and (415) 459-5210, respectively.

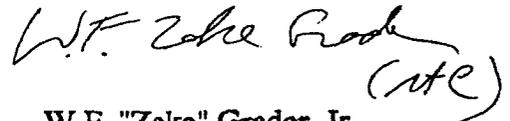
Sincerely,



Richard Moss  
Friant Water Users  
Authority



Hamilton Candee  
Natural Resources Defense  
Council



W.F. "Zeke" Grader, Jr.  
Pacific Coast Federation  
of Fishermen's  
Associations

Enclosures

Copies to: Dan Fults, David Behar  
Bill Luce, John Davis, Paula Landis  
Wayne White  
Steve Chedester