

# San Francisco Estuary Project



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**FEB 24 1997**

Lester Snow  
Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing to urge the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to include the entire San Francisco Bay-Delta into the solution area for the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP). As you know, the Estuary Project's *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* maps out a blueprint of resource and habitat protection for the entire Bay-Delta Estuary. We believe that a plan which incorporates only part of the North Bay and Delta into its solution fails to address the crucial issues which plague the rest of the Bay and perhaps unwisely excludes restoration projects that may be indirectly important to the Delta.

While we applaud the attempts of the ERPP to expand the solution areas beyond the legally-defined boundaries of the Delta and Suisun Marsh, we are concerned that the central and southern parts of San Francisco Bay are excluded. A long-term strategy for Bay-Delta Estuary management and restoration should incorporate the entire watershed, not just its northern reaches. While it is true that many endangered fish species depend on the "Ecological Zones" in the northern reaches of the Bay as defined by the ERPP, parts of their life cycles are spent in other segments of the Bay. Also, many waterfowl and shorebirds depend on the habitat rimming the South Bay and Central Bay. Additionally, the entire San Francisco Bay has suffered from impacts due to the altered flow regime and freshwater diversions, and we believe that it is equitable and more effective to include the entire Bay in addressing these impacts.

We recognize from our own consensus-based efforts on behalf of ecosystem restoration how difficult a task you face in attempting to craft solutions with such a diverse array of interests, but we encourage you to include the crucial central and southern reaches of the Bay-Delta in your final long-term solution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the ERPP.

Sincerely,

Lawrence P. Kolb  
Chair, Implementation Committee

cc: BDAC members