

Comment to BDAC by Alex Hildebrand on the  
5/9 Draft BDAC Recommendation

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Paragraph (d) at the bottom of Page 3

The proposed revised wording of paragraph (d) of the "groundrules" is irresponsible, inequitable, and inconsistent with other parts of the document. It is a sneaky way to condone and be a party to the gradual destruction of a whole region of agriculture and its associated rural communities.

We haven't accepted an ongoing decline in habitat or in fishery. We haven't proposed to deplete natural resources in rural areas. We should not decide to continue the ongoing and unsustainable depletion of groundwater supply and of soil and groundwater quality that will slowly but surely destroy a large segment of agriculture and the water quality and jobs for rural communities like the City of Mendota.

Our talk of protecting the environment and addressing social justice should not be empty rhetoric, and we should not continue to ignore the threat to our food supply. I propose that the paragraph should be revised to say that "CALFED will strive to eliminate dependence on unsustainable groundwater overdraft in any region of the Central Valley, and will also strive to eliminate the destructive accumulation of imported salt in soils and groundwaters of the Central Valley basins south of the Delta".