

# CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

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May 4, 1995

Julie Simpson  
5948 Ashworth Way  
Carmichael, CA 95608

Dear Ms. Simpson:

Your letter of March 20, 1995, to Governor Wilson has been referred to me for reply. I apologize for the delay in responding.

Last summer the State of California and the federal government agreed to work together to solve the interrelated problems of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary. This "Framework Agreement" specified three areas in which State and federal agencies would work together:

- Substantive and procedural aspects of water quality standard setting;
- Improved coordination of water supply operations with endangered species protection and water quality standard compliance; and
- Development of a long-term solution to fish and wildlife, water supply reliability, flood control, and water quality problems in the Bay-Delta Estuary.

A copy of this Framework Agreement is enclosed.

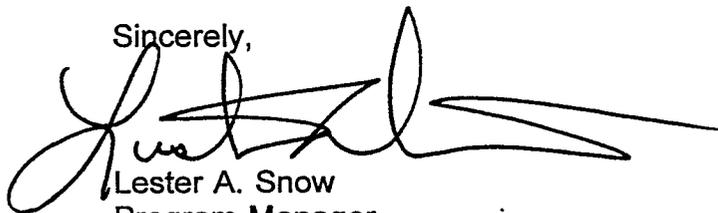
Significant progress has already been made in these areas. On December 15, 1994 the State Water Resources Control Board issued draft water quality standards for the Estuary that had the support of a broad spectrum of interests, including State and federal agencies, water users, and public interest groups. These standards will be in place for three years. An informal operations group has been meeting regularly to devise ways that the water projects might be operated to reduce impacts on endangered species and comply with water quality standards.

Finally, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program was recently created to develop alternatives for a long-term solution to Bay-Delta problems. This joint State/Federal program, working closely with water users, public interest groups, and others, will

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recommend alternatives to solve Bay-Delta problems by early 1996. These alternatives will then be the subject of detailed environmental review through the preparation of a joint State environmental impact report/federal environmental impact statement. We expect the result to be a course of action that will enable us to restore biological resources in the Estuary while protecting water quality and providing a reliable water supply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lester A. Snow', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lester A. Snow  
Program Manager  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Enclosure