

**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666
FAX **(916) 654-9780**

February 13, 1997

Pietro Parravano
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
P. O. Box 989
Sausalito, CA 94966

Dear Pietro:

Thank you for your December 2, 1996 letter commenting on the "Component Integration Example and Linkages" material in the November 21, 1996 BDAC meeting packet and the Introduction to Restoration Targets Workshop Packet dated November 19, 1996. Many of your specific comments related to targets will be addressed over the next several months.

In regard to your comments on the Problem and Objective Statements for Ecosystem Quality, water quality improvement has been addressed in the Water Quality section. Construction of screen facilities is incorporated in a secondary objective dealing specifically with fish entrainment. Fishery needs in general are addressed as part of the ecosystem quality objectives.

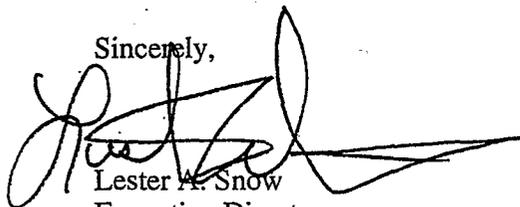
Concerning the second bullet item under the Water Quality Objectives section, agricultural activities are affected by the salinity of irrigation water. Elevated salt concentrations can cause reductions in crop yield and salinity buildup in the soil. Over time, soil salinity can cause the soil to be unable to sustain plant growth. It is possible to reduce salt buildup in soils irrigated with waters containing elevated salt concentrations, but it requires more water to leach the salts from the soils. Boron is toxic to plants, and can be present in the watersheds tributary to the Delta in concentrations high enough to affect crop health. Sodium, one of the components of salt, when present in high concentrations relative to other salt ions, can cause soils to "tighten," reducing the ability of the soils to absorb water. This, in turn, can have a negative effect on crop production.

Land retirement can be one of many effective means of achieving water quality objectives, but it is not an objective of the Water Quality Program.

"To improve the availability and quality of water for fishery needs" has been added to the list of Water Quality Program objectives.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (916) 657-2666.

Sincerely,



Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service