



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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February 24, 1998

Mr. John L. Winther, President
Delta Wetlands
3697 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Suite 100
LaFayette, California 94549

Dear Mr. Winther:

Thank you for your letter dated January 16, 1998 in which you reiterated two suggestions regarding the direction of our alternatives analysis. We have now implemented your suggestion to model existing conditions with the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan and current water demands with DWRSIM and DSM2. The DWRSIM results have been posted to CALFED'S modeling output web site; the DSM2 modeling is planned but has not been completed.

Your suggestion to investigate in more detail a distributed screened intake for through-Delta flows downstream of Georgiana Slough has not been met with much enthusiasm by CALFED's fish screening experts, due to the potential for large cumulative impacts from a large number of smaller screens in the lower Sacramento River. Also at this point we are well past the process for considering new screen locations and will be using the recommendation of the Fish Facility Technical Team in evaluations of screen options in the alternative. The committee, made up of experts from CALFED agencies and outside consultants, recommends a diversion and screen at Hood as a basis for programmatic alternative formulation. I am therefore reluctant to focus significant study resources on the proposal at this time.

If you have further questions or comments, please feel free to write or call me at (916) 653-6628.

Sincerely,

Stein M. Buer
Chief, Technical Services Branch
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

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