

Steve,

96-280

October 10, 1996

Can we prepare
a response on the
screening issue?

OCT 15 1996

Dear Editor:

LAS

The California Department of Water Resources will celebrate 40 years of water resource planning for the Delta in May 1997. Among their great accomplishments:

In partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation the unscreened Delta water pumps and water diversions they operate are **the most massive fish-killing machines in the history of the United States**. Killing millions of our fish every year with their unscreened water pumps and water diversions to support a 20 billion dollar a year agribusiness.

If screening the Tracy and Harvey O. Banks pumps (largely responsible for putting Delta smelt and winter-run Salmon on the endangered species list) are not at the top of CALFED's list of projects, I don't see how anyone who has ever picked up a fishing rod could possibly support Proposition 204.

October 11, 1996
Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED

Brian S. Murphy
2125 Overlook Dr.
Walnut Creek CA. 94596
510-9378835

TO: S. F. CHRONICLE
S. F. EXAMINER
CONTRA COSTA TIMES
WESTERN OUTDOOR NEWS

Lester: CALFED doe not seem to have a good understanding of the need to screen existing diversion facilities. To help CALFED understand the importance of this issue I plan to use citizen arrest to force the closure of existing unscreened water diversion facilities violating various laws - with the news media in tow. The enforcement agencies have ignored violations and a letter from Vice President Gore suggests we need to 'reinvent environmental protection', with that in mind we can find new ways of preventing unscreened water diversion facilities from killing millions of our fish every year by having citizens enforce existing laws at the pumps. After this occurs, perhaps CALFED will make screening existing diversion facilities an important part of their program.


BRIAN MURPHY