

98-229

September 7, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Director
CALFED
State of California
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

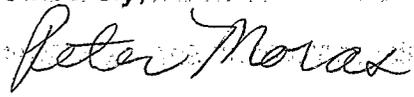
SEP 16 1998

Dear Mr. Snow,

Greetings. I can't believe that Department of Water Resource engineers working with CALFED are seriously considering 23 new or enlarged dams and reservoirs across the state. California's endangered salmon and steelhead need wild and free-flowing rivers to survive. We don't need the Auburn Dam on the American River or the \$3.8 billion dollar enlargement of Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River to meet the state's need for water or flood management. These seem like boondoggles. California's water needs can be met through the year 2020 by a renewed commitment to water conservation, water recycling, and by ending state and federal subsidies for agricultural or industrial water use. Innovative programs like levee setbacks, expanded bypass reaches, restored wetlands, development restrictions in deep floodplains, and wiser use of our existing dams can meet the state's needs for flood management.

Please use your position to guide state planners towards more sustainable, conservation-based measures to meet the water needs of plants, animals, and humans. Thank you for your attention to this letter on behalf of healthy watersheds.

Sincerely,



Peter Moras

151 Manzanita Way
Salinas, California 93908