

2000-18

# National Audubon Society California



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CALFED Bay-Delta Program

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May 31, 2000

National Audubon Society  
Chapters of California

- Altacal
- Buena Vista
- Central Sierra
- Conejo Valley
- Eagle Lake
- Eastern Sierra
- El Dorado
- Fresno
- Golden Gate
- Kern
- Kerncrest
- Laguna Hills
- Lake Almanor
- La Purisima
- Los Angeles
- Madrone
- Marble Mountain
- Marin
- Mendocino Coast
- Monterey Peninsula
- Morro Coast
- Mount Diablo
- Mount Shasta Area
- Solano
- North Cuesta
- Ohlone
- Palomar
- Palos Verdes/South Bay
- Pasadena
- Peregrine
- Plumas
- Pomona Valley
- Redbud
- Redwood Region
- Sacramento
- San Bernardino Valley
- San Diego
- San Fernando Valley
- San Joaquin
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Clara Valley
- Santa Monica Bay
- Sea and Sage
- Sequoia
- Sierra Foothills
- South Coast
- Stanislaus
- Tulare County
- Ventura
- Whittier
- Yolo
- Yosemite Area

Mr. Steve Ritchie,  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

On behalf of the National Audubon Society's 67,000 members and 53 affiliated local chapters in California, and as a member of the Central Valley Habitat and San Francisco Bay Joint Ventures, I am writing to express our strong interests regarding ongoing discussions between the Department of Interior and the State of California to finalize CALFED's Preferred Program Alternative (PPA).

While we support the goal of providing reliability to agricultural and urban water users, we also want to ensure that the environment receives the same types of assurances through the final PPA. CALFED must fully fund and implement the ecosystem restoration program plan (ERPP), by following through on previous commitments to provide a guaranteed funding source and creating a mechanism that will be able to manage the ERPP, which we believe will be crucial for the long-term success of the Bay-Delta Program.

Since CALFED estimates that close to \$1 billion will be needed during Stage One to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem we are requesting that \$150 million be dedicated each year to implement the ERPP. Moreover, this funding should be provided in addition to the Central Valley Project Improvement Act mitigation and environmental restoration funds as well as the funding necessary to purchase the water allocated to the Environmental Water Account.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Taylor  
Executive Director

CC: The Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior  
The Honorable Gray Davis, Governor, State of California  
The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Administrator, Region IX, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
The Honorable Mary Nichols, Secretary, California Resources Agency

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Starr Ranch Sanctuary • Paul L. Wattis Sanctuary

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