



COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
WITH FAMILY FARMERS

Copies sent to: FW file
Date: 11/15

P.O. Box 363

Davis, CA

95617-0363

Phone:

530.756.8518

Fax:

530.756.7857

E-mail:

caff@caff.org

Web site:

www.caff.org



Board of Directors

Mark Wall
President

Britt Yamamoto
Vice President

Michelle
Mascarenhas
Secretary

Linda Cole
Treasurer

Lisa Brenneis

Terry Harrison

Joe Mitchell

Robert Rautkis

Sunny Shine

David Visser

November 11, 1999

Honorable Mary Nichols
Secretary for Resources
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Nichols,

Thank you very much for meeting with representatives of agricultural interests on November 1st to hear our views on CalFed, particularly regarding land acquisition issues. We appreciated your willingness to listen to our concerns and to work with us for the best possible outcome of the CalFed process.

Adrienne Alvord represented the Community Alliance with Family Farmers at this meeting. She reported to us that you acknowledged our concern about potential local community and cumulative impacts from CalFed program actions, and that you indicated that not enough had been done yet to involve communities in the process. We appreciate your frankness and the difficulty that this issue presents, and we would like to offer our assistance to provide ideas or contacts who might help.

Ms. Alvord also reported that you had a brief conversation with her at the end of the meeting and discussed our views about changing CalFed's emphasis where possible, from government land acquisition to farmer-based environmental land management. She indicated that you expressed an interest in this approach and would be willing to discuss it further.

To facilitate this discussion we would be willing to coordinate and host a meeting early in 2000 of CalFed, Resources Agency, and NRCS staff with non-profit groups, landowners and other stakeholders who have done on-farm environmental restoration work.

Please let us know if you are interested in this approach. Thank you very much again for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

James R. Tischer
Executive Director

Judith Redmond
Director of Public Affairs