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## **STATEMENT TO STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I'm Joan Buchanan. I'm a 38 year resident of Contra Costa County. I served in the State Assembly for six years and represented three of the five Delta Counties and approximately 2/3's of the primary zone.

I have tremendous appreciation for the Delta as a natural and economic resource and as a place. I have met families that have farmed in the Delta for five and six generations, which is remarkable, when one considers that the average family business passes successfully from one generation to another only 30% of the time. Our families enjoy the many recreational activities in the Delta.

I'm keenly aware that the Delta is the largest water delivery system in the world. The communities I represented get all - 100% - of their water from the Delta. That is why your decision to add three new diversion points is so important. Any change that impacts their water supplies or water quality will impact their lives profoundly.

In the Assembly I carried several bills on invasive weeds - Water Hyacinth and Egeria Densa. Today Delta residents also worry about toxic algae and its effect on their health and their children's health. Water flows impact the growth of all.

It's folly to say that the proposed three new diversion points do not require new water rights. If I had a well in my backyard and moved 11 miles, I'd have to get a permit to drill a new well.

It's folly to say that water quality will not be impacted. The San Joaquin River's water is much more toxic than the Sacramento. Taking more water from the Sacramento River before it flows through the Delta will cause the toxicity of the water in the Delta to increase. (That's why Contra Costa Water District sued the State.)

It's folly for the California Water Fix to say that it will take water simultaneously from the new diversions and operate the pumps at Clifton Court Forebay and not impact water quality and flows and impact the economy and lives of those who work and live in the Delta.

DWR Director Mark Corwin has said they will meet water quality standards because state law requires it. I say before you spend over \$15 billion of taxpayer money, prove it. Show me an approved EIR. The initial 40,000 page EIR was pulled because it could not pass EPA requirements.

Set quantifiable flow requirements. Last month's Court Decision threw out the Delta Plan because it did not establish flow standards to reduce reliance on the Delta, provide for more natural flows, and reduce harm from invasive species.

I ask you to reject the proposed new diversions or at a minimum, delay action until there is an approved EIR and Delta Plan, one that meets the co-equal goals of the 2009 water legislation.

*Joan Buchaner*