



COALITION FOR A SUSTAINABLE DELTA
SOLVING THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CRISIS

July 26, 2016

Ms. Felicia Marcus, California WaterFix Project Co-Hearing Officer
Ms. Tam Doduc, California WaterFix Project Co-Hearing Officer
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

RE: Coalition for a Sustainable Delta California WaterFix Policy Statement

Dear Co-Hearing Officer Marcus and Co-Hearing Officer Doduc:

The Coalition for a Sustainable Delta (Coalition) submits this policy statement in support of the California WaterFix.

The Coalition is a not-for-profit organization formed by water users who care about the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Our members rely on the Delta for their water supplies and for recreation. A healthy estuary is essential to the lives and livelihood of Coalition members. The Coalition is dedicated to creating a healthy Delta ecosystem by easing or resolving the many stressors affecting this unique and essential estuary. The health of the Delta and its ability to function as a reliable water conveyance hub are intertwined and can only be sustained through constructive efforts to fix what ails the estuary.

The Coalition supports the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) and the U.S. Department of the Interior's (Interior) efforts, and firmly believes that the WaterFix is the best way to achieve the long term ecological health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its native species while ensuring a reliable and sustainable water supply for California families, farms and businesses. The WaterFix ensures that necessary updates to California's aging and deteriorating water infrastructure will not negatively impact endangered species and allows water to flow from Northern to Southern California within the confines of existing and developing laws, including the regulatory framework that currently ensures water quality remains high. The WaterFix similarly will take into account the Water Quality Control Plan update, minimizing the impact on legal diverters of water. Finally, the WaterFix recognizes that the delicate Delta ecosystem will benefit from the expected collaborative science and adaptive management process, which is currently under development by DWR and Interior.

The time for progressive and constructive solutions for California's water resources management is now, and the Coalition supports the WaterFix as the way in which to accomplish these goals. The Coalition urges the State Water Board to approve the planned diversions, so that the WaterFix can move forward.

Sincerely,

William D. Phillimore
President
Coalition for a Sustainable Delta