



March 25, 2021

VIA Email to the Clerk to the Board

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-0100

RE: Comment on the Bay-Delta Plan

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) offers these comments on the State Water Board's efforts to establish water quality control measures and flow requirements needed to provide reasonable protection of beneficial uses for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). We concur with the State Water Board's assessment that there is an urgent need to address prolonged and precipitous declines of native aquatic species, intrusive salinity, invasive plant species, and other adverse impacts of added diversion of its water for increased agricultural and municipal uses in the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The League supports efforts to increase targeted flows for the protection of salmon migration and for high water quality standards for the Delta, while maintaining economic viability for agriculture, municipal drinking water, and other stakeholders' needs.

The League realizes that sacrifices will be necessary from all diverters from the San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and hope that stakeholders will be encouraged to work together to reach voluntary agreements to increase necessary flows to meet objectives developed by the State Water Board. We believe that the term "stakeholders" should be broadened to include all impacted users, whether or not they hold water rights.

We encourage all diverters affected by the State Water Board's Bay-Delta Plan to explore groundwater banking, enhanced conservation projects, implementation of non-flow measures and other innovative approaches to



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water management that could benefit all and lessen the economic impacts to both agricultural and urban users. Leadership, a strong commitment, and financial resources are required.

In conclusion, we believe the first priority of the State Water Board is to complete its plan to protect the Bay-Delta watershed and its many beneficial uses. The fate of this priceless ecosystem depends upon urgent action by the State Water Board to finish this process begun several years ago.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Moon Goldberg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Carol Moon Goldberg
President

CC:
Christine Hironaka
Deputy Cabinet Secretary
Governor Gavin Newsom
Christine.Hironaka@gov.ca.gov