

Chapter 7

## **Comments from Individuals**

## Chapter 7

# Comments from Individuals

This section contains copies of the comment letters received from individuals, listed in Table 7-1. Each letter is followed by responses to the comments presented in that letter. Responses to comments are numbered individually in sequence, corresponding to the numbering assigned to comments in each comment letter. The responses are prepared in answer to the full text of the original comment.

**Table 7-1.** Individual Comments Received on the Draft EIS/EIR

Code	Name
PET	Petition, signed by many
OL	Opposition letter, signed by many
LB	Logan Bauer
JB	Jeffrey Becker
AB	Alexis Blaess
JC1	Jim Collins
JC2	Jerry Creech
RC	Richard Cunningham
RMD	Richard M. Davis
LED	Larry E. Dennis
LHF	Lanny H. Fisk, PaleoResource Consultants
JMF	JoAnne M. Frudden
KG1	Keefe Goldfisher
JLG	Dr. & Mrs. John L. Graham
BG	Bonnie Gray
DAG	David A. Guerra
KG2	Karrey Guerra
MH	Matthew Haskett
CWH	Charles W. Helfrick
DH	Diana Hickson

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Code	Name
FH	Freda Hofland
JEH	James E. Hunter
RI	Richard Izmirian
PJ	Phil Johnson
JK	John Keeley
NK	Nancy Kops
PBL	Peter B. Lund
RML	Robert M. Lyman
JIM	James I. Mangels
DM	Danielle Martin
GMM	Grace M. Marvin, Julian C. Zener
FM	Frank Middleton
WSM	William S. Middleton
VM	Vicki Munoz
SN	Steven Nozet
AP	Alyssa Parsons
MP	Maria Perales
JGP	Joseph P. Petrofsky
JDP	Jim and Diana Prola
SR	Sky Rashby
MAR	Mary Ann Robinson
JS	Jan Saxton
BS	Brian Staab
DT	Dennis Thomas
BS2	Brad Strong
JL	Joe LoBue
CC	Carol Chapman
WR	William Riess
AH	Amanda Hassit
AD	Alan Deane
VWC	Robert J DiPrimo, President

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## Comment Letter PET

	<b>PET</b>
	JAN 27 2006 00079
<b>PETITION AGAINST THE SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM</b>	
I oppose the South Delta Improvements Program. The EIR/EIS should be withdrawn. The Delta ecosystem and fisheries need to be restored and self-sustaining before consideration is given to increasing water exports.	<b>PET-1</b>

		JAN 27 2006	000 79
NAME	Address	PHONE	EMAIL
Patricia Miller	PO BOX 4858, San Jose, CA <sup>95150</sup> <del>95150</del>	(408) 528-3442	
MIKE Overmyer	620 Tanbark C <sup>95762</sup> CT EDH		
PAUL CHOW	1127 ULLAGE Dr #9 Belmont CA <sup>94002</sup>	(707) 363-3729	
Pete Rodriguez	140 Ashlen Dr Napa CA <sup>94558</sup>	707 2520891	
WALLACE LEE	1547 - 7th AVE SF CA <sup>94112</sup>	walle254@hotmail.com	
RICKY CABUDAY	2962 CLOW BUDEN CT. S.J. CA. <sup>95148</sup>	RCABUDAY@YAHOO.COM	
Scott Woodward	341 Olson rd Saguai Ca <sup>95073</sup>	831 4750916	
TIM Coffey	2937 Lincoln Ave Alameda CA <sup>94601</sup>	510 3774920	
MARK ENGLISH	3178 Lucas Dr Lafayette CA <sup>94549</sup>	925-766-2718	
Richard Fernandez	1443 Harrieta Ave Los gatas CA <sup>95130</sup>	408-377-4377	
William LEMP	2688 Eaton Ave. San Carlos, Ca <sup>94070</sup>	(650) 208-8863	
John Medina	3624 Hollister Ave. CAR. <sup>95608</sup>	(916) 944 <sup>3222</sup>	
JERRY SOUTER	3422 Plumias-Arbo <sup>marysville</sup> CA <sup>95101</sup>	(530) 742-9199	
ALEX PELLEGRINI	1176 CHESTNUT SAN FRANCISCO, CA. <sup>94109</sup>	(415) 474-3986	
Beal Miller	3228 Kintee D. San Jose Ca <sup>95133</sup>	408 729-3718	
TOM MIZENO	021 LINDA MESTRE SD CA	408 0292602	
DAVE CARDOVA	3284 MATTOS AV SJ CA <sup>95132</sup>	408 251-1936	
DALE MYER	PO BOX 153 CLAYTON CA <sup>94517</sup>	925 6850235	
Hugh Manix	3972 Baldwin Ct Fremont CA <sup>94536</sup>	510 5047240	
CRAIG WOOD	328 GRAVE ST. HUNTINGTON <sup>94019</sup> NY	(650) 726-9011	
Lylia Faulson	2725 S. Bolivar Veradale <sup>94037</sup>	509-891-7743	
Greg Scoles	2828 S. Norfolk St. San Mateo CA <sup>94403</sup>	(650) 867-0829	
Steve Balestrieri	570 Rockdale DR SPCA <sup>94117</sup>	415 806-6155	
Steve Takagi	5461 Begonia Dr. San Jose <sup>95124</sup>	408-221-1385	
PODWEY FONG	145 SEFFERSO <sup>San Francisco</sup> CA <sup>94133</sup>	415/307-6106	
STEVE SENA	20 ROBERT PL MILLBURN <sup>94030</sup>	650 420486	

Name	Address	Phone
CARL LARSEN	2600 Los Amigos Rd <sup>NAPA</sup>	707-224
PAUL SARBANT	117 MOORELAND ALAMEDA CA	
John Sababah	520 ARBALLO DRIVE (SLO) CA	
Renee Silva	13600 Montfort Av. <sup>Herald</sup> CA 95238	(209) 74
PAT L'ITALIEN	7821 LORIN AVE SAC 95828	916-383-39
Dennis Smith	P.O. Box 1616 Santa Cruz, CA 95061	831-426-41
Cheryl P. Lucchesi	P.O. Box 82 Meridian CA 91403	
James S.K. Peterson	11 E. 41st PL, APT. D SAN MATEO CA	650-527
DAVID STAEK	38 MILL AVE PMS170 Millvale	415-886-31
Bruce Gordon	P.O. Box 354 Mill Valley CA 94942	
John Troxell	4621 Clipper Dr. Discovery Bay CA 94514	925-513-2
PAUL TROYELL	563 Cooper DR Benicia CA 94510	707-746-1.
Steve Brookshire	2266 Mt. Whitney DR. Pittsburg CA	925-628-09
JIM BLACKBURN	943 SNOW DR. MARTINEZ CA	925-372-66
FRED VIRGILIO	2620 MONSERAT AVE BELMONT CA	650-593-2
Jim Mancuso	1139 Fernwood Millbrae	650 871-013.
Lawrence C. Neno	439 Dahlia St Fairfield CA	707 738-718
Sara Stoker	1791 Laurel St Gridley CA	530 846-11
David Anderson	1791 Laurel St Gridley CA	530 846-11
TOM PADERNA	2004 LYON AVE, BELMONT	650-674456
SAM ALUSA	63 Cove Lane Redwood City	650-596-733
Ryan Aldair	876 S. Oak St. Ukiah CA 95482	707-462-38
JEFF KROPMANN	1672 PRIMROSE D WILHITTS CA 95970	707 959-78
BRUCE MARTIN	3455 SCOTTLAND DR. TURLOCK CA	209-667-55
Jeremy Light	669 47th Ave. S.F. CA 94121	(415) 28-7969
Emma Orsapa	5 Dorchester Dr. D.C. CA 94015	
Kenneth Smith	25 Alvarado St SF, CA 94118	(415) 688-5

JAN 27 2006 00079		
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J. S. Dudley	2040 Merano Dr. S.B. 94066	JosephDudley@gmail.com
K. Loo	2900 Merano Dr S.B. 94066	
Blaine Bonacci	2090 Pine St Martinez	925 372 7300
Jeffrey Caldwell	2625F Coffee Rd. #135, Modesto 95355	208 845-8470
Ray Yoo	5053 Palmetto Pacific 94024	mn4 Big Fish/No
Dean McVey	1864 Landana Dr. Concord CA 94519	925-363-4310
ARUEL CIEGG	37387 CHERRY ST, NIMARK, CA 94560	510-742-0118
Rick Zollinger	498 Bayview Pacific 94044	6503558322
Walter Meyer	1827 Lafayette Alameda 94501	wmeyer@comcast.net
Gerald McKay	500 West I St Berkeley, CA	707-245-2422
Conde McKay	500 W.I St. Berkeley CA	707 745-2421
JAMES COBB	4721 Presset Rd SL	707 586-9172
Rita Lutz	8546W Carmelita	209-392-6308
Stephen Paulick	116 Rawlings Ct. Folsom CA	916-983-5441
MIKE PETERSON	960 LAGUNA AVE FURLINGAME CA 94010	650-347-2527
Syvester Gridby Jr	5402 Glenwood CT, El Sobrante CA 94803	510 758-5481
MIKE CASEY	1071 CARRARA way LIVERMORE	925-243-9669
Michael Peckham	17960 Squirrel Haven La Mesa	520-878-8339
PAUL DEMBOR	2243 40th AVE S.F. CA. 94116	415-661-8825
W. M. L.	6067 Donna Ct Redwood Park 94988	KNOBOUTE@BleGlobal.net
JR POTTER	200 13TH ST - VALLEJO CA 94590	JRPFISHINTI@comcast.net
Richard Jany	27088 S. CORRAL HOLLOW RD TRACY CA 95377	209-835-6065
Neal Cameron	839 Rio Chico Way Chico CA 95928	
Bob Cameron	1200 Majilla Ave. Buckeye CA 94610	650-344-6639
DAVID Potter Sr	200 13TH ST VALLEJO CA 94590	707-642-2419

JAN 27 2006 . 000 79		
NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE / E-MAIL
CYRIS WOLFGRAM	827 RIDDY LN. SUFSAUN CA 94585	707-422-3059
JAY JACKSON	1707 BRUSH CREEK RD SANTA ROSA CA 95404	707-539-1606
JASON LEONBERG	7 NORTH COURT MARTINEZ CA.	925-360-6871
Allan Castillo	19 Ridgefield Ave Daly City Ca.	650-992-8260
CHRIS RIVERA	812 DOVER HERCULES Ca 94547	510-799-4325
George P Barley	597 OXFORD ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94134	415-333-3187
GEOFFREY MATSUMOTO	2041 ROSS PLACE WAKOUB CREEK CA 94597	510-730-0484
<i>[Signature]</i>	201 Williams St. San Francisco Ca. 94121	407 2626
Don Edg	12704 MCKENZIE RD CALIF 95632	209-745-3917
Andy Lee	110 Van Ness, SF	510-568-2041
Joe Reeves	534 Chabotfield dr. Pittsburg	209 817 3667
Tim Flynn	1414 AGRICULTURE AVE	209-892-4167
KEITH NG	5060 CONSTITUTION WAY, SAN JOSE	408 264-4957
Jim Malapades	7351 Granite Ridge Carson City NV	775 849 8467
Robert Jahnke	2418 GOODWIN AVE REDWOOD 94061	650 3689192
Mike Castle	301 EVANS AVE VALLEJO CA 94590	707 556-9020
Robert Fainelli	327 EVANS AVE VALLEJO CA 94590	(707) 647-0614
John Loutch	353 THE Alameda SA 94516	415 457-6846
Robert Santos	41433 APRICOT LA FREMONT 94539	510-656-7392
Daniel Tjoa	2148 Santa Ventura Dr Los Altos 94027	650-967-7517
DAVE HILLARD	9800 WESTFACIA WAY ELK GROVE	916-230-5150
Ken-g Moore	729 CALICO AVE SAN JOSE CA	408 578 6233
STO PADO	814 RIVERA ST MILPITAS CA 95035	STEVE-ROSTER@COMCAST.NET
VERA LOSKUTOFF	1869 BAHIA ST. SAN MATEO, CA 94403	650-349-5323
Chris Hsing	10 Highlands Ct Belmont CA 94002	650-992-5894
Bill Moser	925 HOWARD AVE B'G AMERICA	925 343-5910
Jim J...	530 JACARANDA ST	925 784 0411

NAME	ADDRESS	JAN 27 2006	00079 PHONE/E-MAIL
Stewart F Martin	20 Marsily St San Francisco Ca		415 2391481
Amy Lawrence	11 General Scotts Valley CA		831-335 4888
GARY YOUNG	1074 LEIGH VLY. CIR. DAVISVILLE, CA		510 923-3025 ✓
JASON CORNELL	3007 G Street		925 584-1880
JOE CORNELL	1024 Dolores Dr. Lafayette Ca. 94549		925) 234-3722
STEPHEN CAVELLIN	P.O. Box 938 Kenwood, CA 95752		707-544-4442
Marshall Cochrane	2221 Harbor View Drive <sup>Martinez</sup> Ca		510-504-8321
BILL N. ECK	101 MAIN ST C HUMB CA 94019		(510) 712 9949
STEVE BANKS	125 DIAMOND ST. SAN BRUNO, 94066		(650) 503-1560 ✓
STEPHEN MCKEE	546 PALM AVE So San Francisco CA 94080		650-588-6525
MARK SMITH	830 GALE DR CAMPBELL CA 95008		408-898-6526
Doreen	16210 CG Alameda Rd L. C 95032		408 8585520
MARSHALL COON	4791 CHARLOTTE WAY Livermore CA 94550		925 377-5900
Charles Moore	743 Fallon Ave Santa Clara CA 95050		408 248-2178
Daniel Montes	P.O. Box 3866 Turlock CA 95381		
Ryan Casagranon	2228 1st St BENICIA CA 94510		707 246-6909

## Responses to Comments

### PET-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

## Comment Letter OL

OL

January 26, 2006

FEB 09 2006 00184

Mr. Paul Marshall  
Bay Delta Office  
Dept of Water Resources  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

RE: Opposition Letter for the Proposed South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP)

Dear Mr. Marshall:

As a native northern Californian and sports fishing angler, I would like the record to state that I am adamantly opposed to the SDIP project.

The SDIP overview indicates that the water exports south is affecting fish migrations and water quality.

The states answer to this problem is the SDIP? This is a myopic temporary solution that may not work and would open up the possibility for more water exports south, further degrading the Delta.

Why aren't we looking at the real problem? Too much water being shipped south! What efforts are being made by the people/business/government on the user end to conserve the water that they are using today? Why aren't the agribusiness folks implementing more efficient irrigation methods? Why don't they use desalinization plants or start reusing treated wastewater?

The Delta water is not a wholesale commodity that can be sold to the highest bidder as it currently stands. This mentality is a big reason that the Delta is in the situation it is now regarding the degradation of the ecosystem and environment.

In closing, the SDIP project should not be approved. More emphasis on conservation and seeking other water resources besides the Delta should be seriously considered.

Sincerely,

(your name here)

OL-1

## Responses to Comments

### OL-1

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

## Comment Letter LB

To: 19166536077	From: 2022691050	1-22-06 4:20pm p. 8 of 10
		<b>LB</b>
<p>January 22, 2006</p> <p>Paul A. Marshall California Department of Water Resources South Delta Branch 1416 9th Street, 2nd floor Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p>Dear Mr. Marshall,</p> <p>Regarding even more water being diverted from the San Francisco Bay delta:</p> <p>Please understand that our wild friends and their habitats are infused with the life essence of Mother Earth herself. If we are gentle and loving toward her and her creatures, then she will give us what we need in a balanced way.</p> <p>Please do what you can to preserve this watery ecosystem.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Logan Bauer 240 Monroe Dr Apt 511 Mountain View, CA 94040-1082 USA</p>		
		<b>LB-1</b>

## Responses to Comments

### LB-1

The effects of the SDIP on biological resources, including wildlife, are fully described in the SDIP Draft EIS/EIR in Chapter 6, which includes impact assessment for fish, vegetation and wetlands, and wildlife. Where a significant effect is found to result from implementation of the SDIP, DWR and Reclamation will implement mitigation measure(s) to ensure that the overall impact is less than significant.

## Comment Letter JB

JB

Mr. Paul A. Marshall  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street-2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FEB 09 2006 00178

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Hello, my name is Jeffrey Becker and I'm an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at St. Edward School in Newark, CA. I was assigned to write a Social Action Letter about something I am concerned with in our environment.

As I understand there is a large amount of water being pumped out of the delta's estuary system. I was very irate when I found out that California Department of Water Resources was planning to pump as much as 27% more water out of the delta.

This didn't make sense to me because we already new that its ecosystem was collapsing and we where still planning on pumping out millions of gallons of water each year from the delta.

JB-1

The Bay-Delta is the largest estuary in the western United States. About 40 to 60 percent of the Delta's fresh water is already diverted by state and federal agencies and exported south to supply San Joaquin Valley and Southern California. In the past 4 years, four species of the Delta fish have severely declined, along with the complex food web that sustains them.

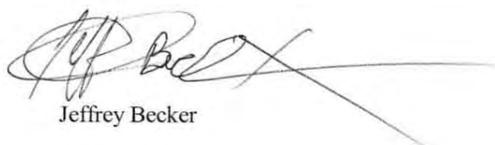
Even more alarming is that California is not even in a water crisis. In fact, according to the California Water Plan Update, California will meet its water needs now and even well into the future. Also the plan shows that the water demand in California will decrease over the next 30 years if there where large investments made in getting people to use water more efficiently.

JB-2

In conclusion I would like to say that if the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation renews its federal water contract that it will only encourage more pumping from the Delta. If the pumping continues our water quality will decrease, there will be a loss of habitat for fish and native fish will decline a large amount.

JB-3

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Becker

## Responses to Comments

### JB-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

### JB-2

Please see Master Response L, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the California Water Plan Update 2005*.

### JB-3

An evaluation of the effect on pumping resulting from Reclamation renewing contracts is beyond the scope of the SDIP EIS/EIR. The EIS/EIR does disclose the environmental impacts of increasing pumping at the Tracy and Banks pumping plants under Stage 2.

## Comment Letter AB

**AB**

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**From:** aliocha@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2006 8:17 AM  
**To:** Marshall, Paul  
**Subject:** Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Mr. Paul Marshall  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street - 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Marshall,

Thank you for soliciting public comments in response to the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP) DEIR/S.

Most scientists agree that water diversions are one of the most significant factors contributing to the decline of fish populations in the Delta region.

Please withdraw the SDIP DEIR/S until the causes of the delta fish decline -- including water diversions -- are investigated and fully resolved.

**AB-1**

Sincerely,

alexis blaess  
345 capricorn ave.  
oakland, California 94611

## Responses to Comments

### AB-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

## Comment Letter JC1

January 23, 2006 JC1

Paul A. Marshall  
Dept. of Water Resources  
South Delta Branch  
% NCCFF  
PO Box 8330  
Berkeley, CA 94707

JAN 27 2006 00083

Dear Mr. Marshall;

This is a letter in opposition to the so called South Delta Improvement Program. The EIR/EIS are flawed and inadequate in addressing the damage the SDIP will do to the Sacramento Delta and the valuable fisheries that reside or pass through there. The plan is to steal northern California water and ship it to greedy, corporate farmers and real estate developers in the south. The delta is dying and the SDIP will be the last nail in the coffin. Please work to defeat this outrageous program.

Very truly yours,  
Jim Collins  
105 Lakeside Drive  
Corte Madera, CA 94925  
415-945-3292

JC1-1

## Responses to Comments

### JC1-1

Section 6.1 of the SDIP EIS/EIR includes an evaluation of the impacts on aquatic resources expected to occur as a result of constructing and operating Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project. Reclamation and DWR have agreed to delay making a decision on Stage 2 of SDIP until additional relevant biological data are collected and analyzed. Please see Master Response B *Relationship Between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline* and Master Response K *Staged Decision-Making Process*

# Comment Letter JC2

JC2

Copy  
2

January 29, 2006

FEB 09 2006

00192

Director Lester A. Snow  
16 - 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 1115-1  
Sacramento, California 95814

## E: SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

I have been boating on the Delta since 1978 and have lived in Discovery Bay since 1992. The Delta is truly a marvel; this Delta was built over a hundred years ago. Imagine placing waterways above the land, an amazing accomplishment of our ancestors. Since it does not rain in Northern California all summer, it is imperative that we can have a viable delta to insure water for our farms, (the richest farm and in the world) and our population.

I attended last weeks hearing in Stockton not knowing anything about the subject and thought the meeting had to do with our levee system. The meeting lasted 2 ½ hours and the concentration was on exporting more water to Southern California. The fishermen were united in opposing the SDIP project due to the disappearance of the fish population. The fact that the sturgeon population has gone from 140,000 to 10,000 in just 5 years must be alarming to all. Farmers are finding salt on their land. This is a result of too much water going south, more pumping would only exacerbate this problem. A personal observation is that we are seeing more sea lions in Discovery Bay than I can ever remember. It used to be a rare occurrence and now I find them sleeping on my neighbors dock. It seems unusual since sea lions natural home is sea water.

The Delta consists of over 1 thousand miles of waterway, which is held up by levees. Without these levees there will be no water to send anywhere. I have observed these levees and it is imperative that they be properly maintained, not repaired after a failure. The improvements to the South Delta and entire Delta should start with maintenance of existing levees restoring the proper balance of fish population and make sure the ecology is in balance before the reckless deportation of water that makes the Delta viable.

I understand Southern California is in great need of water and there is not an easy solution. Your band aid approach to temporarily fixing Southern California water needs by exporting Delta water at the cost of possibly losing the Delta. When it is gone your short- sighted approach will rest with the future generations of Californians. Colorado river stands as a perfect example where it once flowed into the Gulf of California and now is almost dried up. This not only affects the Delta, but will also have a dramatic effect on San Francisco Bay and the entire state of California. The absence of fish speaks for itself.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jerry Creech  
Discovery Bay Homeowner

## Responses to Comments

### JC2-1

Section 6.1 SDIP EIS/EIR includes an evaluation of the impacts on aquatic resources expected to occur as a result of constructing and operating Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the project. Reclamation and DWR have agreed to delay making a decision on Stage 2 of SDIP until additional relevant biological data are collected and analyzed. Please see Master Response B *Relationship Between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline* and Master Response K *Staged Decision-Making Process*.

### JC2-2

Section 5.3 of the SDIP EIS/EIR includes provides the results of the water quality assessment for both Stage 1 and Stage 2 of SDIP. Table 5.3-1 provides the results of the assessment of changes in salinity for Stage 1 and Table 5.3-3 provides the results of the assessment for Stage 2. For both Stage 1 and Stage 2, water quality in the interior south Delta is expected to improve.

### JC2-3

] Flood control is not one of the SDIP project objectives. Section 5.2 of the SDIP EIS/EIR provides an assessment of the effects of the project on flood control and levee stability. The project elements have been designed to be flood neutral. Please see Master Response *Effects of the South Delta Improvements Program Stage 1 Tidal Gates and Dredging on Flood Elevations in the South Delta Channels*.

## Comment Letter RC

RC

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**From:** frc88@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2006 8:09 PM  
**To:** sdip\_comments  
**Subject:** South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street ? 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Paul Marshall, California Department of Water Resources,

Dear Decision Maker, It is time to stop messing around with the San Francisco Bay-Delta and rapidly finding solutions for California's emerging water crisis. The Northern California Watershed has become an overused resource that can no longer support the demands that are being placed upon it. We are sacrificing the most valuable & productive agricultural region in the world for the short-term profits of residential & commercial developers. Now it the time to establish definitive urban development limits. This means limiting population expansion & higher density cities; a plan for recharging aquifers in times of overabundance; and using the latest technologies potable & waste-water management; and revitalizing the Bay & Delta after years of abuse.

RC-1

RC-2

Sincerely,

Richard Cunningham  
PO Box 38  
Orinda, California 94563

## Responses to Comments

### RC-1

The SDIP is intended to balance the needs of the environment with the needs of the water users south of the Delta. Impacts identified as potentially significant will be mitigated to a less-than-significant level to ensure minimal effects on the environment.

### RC-2

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

## Comment Letter RMD

RMD

Mr. Paul A. Marshall  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street – 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

JAN 20 2006 00062

Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Thank you for soliciting public comments in response to the South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S.

Given the precipitous decline of Delta fish species, it makes no sense to move forward with a project that will "increase water deliveries" to state and federal water contractors by pumping even more water from the already stressed Delta ecosystem. This misguided project cannot move forward until the cause of the Delta fish decline is identified and resolved.

RMD-1

SDIP does not actually "improve" water quality or restore the Delta ecosystem. It simply directs water to state, federal, and local pumps to allow for more Delta diversions. SDIP should actually include an alternative that meets the essential goals of restoring the Delta ecosystem, improving water quality for biological needs as well as for consumptive purposes, and protecting Delta fish species.

RMD-2

If and when the project environmental review is reinitiated, the DEIR/S must, by state and federal law, include a reasonable range of alternatives. Currently, the DEIR/S only considers alternatives to increase Delta pumping and a no action alternative. At least one additional alternative that proposes a significant reduction in Delta pumping should be considered in a reinitiated DEIR/S. The goal of this alternative would be to restore the Delta ecosystem, improve water quality, and protect Delta fish species.

RMD-3

I urge that the SDIP DEIR/S be withdrawn until the causes of the Delta fish decline are identified and resolved. At the minimum, the SDIP DEIR/S should consider an alternative that significantly reduces Delta pumping from current levels. California does not need to increase Delta diversions to meet its current and future water needs. Increased investments in water use efficiency, reclamation, and conservation can meet our needs well into the future.

Please include me on your mailing list to be notified of any decisions or activities concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Name: Richard M. Davis Date: 1-13-06

Street Address: 707 MEDALLION CT,

City/State/Zip: LINCOLN, CA. 95648

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Responses to Comments

### RMD-1

Please see Master Response B, *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*.

### RMD-2 and RMD-3

Please see Master Response D, *Developing and Screening Alternatives Considered in the South Delta Improvements Program Draft EIS/EIR*.

## Comment Letter LED

LED

LARRY E. DENNIS



35170 Garcia Street Union City, CA 94587 Phone 510-471-6040 Larden9@aol.com

JAN 23 2006 00068

January 20, 2006

Mr. Paul Marshall  
Dept. of Water Resources  
South Delta Branch  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

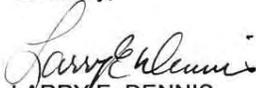
Subject: South Delta "Improvement" Project

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I oppose the actions proposed in the draft EIR/EIS for SDIP. SDIP is another attempt to appropriate additional water from the already-compromised Bay-Delta Estuary. The dredging, barriers and eventual increased pumping and water exports of SDIP will only worsen the Delta Ecosystem Crash (aka Pelagic Organism Decline). Instead of the measures you propose, measures that will benefit special interests such as Westlands Water District, I request the following: Withdraw the EIR/EIS. Reduce pumping rates and water exports to those that existed in the early 2000's when Delta Smelt appeared to be on the road to recovery, Increase ecosystem restoration measures. Improve water quality. Ensure the ecosystem of the Bay-Delta Estuary, including its fishery resources, is restored and self-sustaining before you consider appropriating more of its lifeblood (water). As California's Water Plan demonstrates, our needs will be met for several more decades through conservation, reclamation, efficiency and conjunctive use.

LED-1

Sincerely,

  
LARRY E. DENNIS

## Responses to Comments

### LED-1

Please see Master Response B *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and the Pelagic Organism Decline*, Master Response K *Staged Decision Making Process*, and Master Response L *Relationship between the South Delta Improvements Program and California Water Plan Update 2005*.