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Public Comment
Statewide Dredged or Fill Procedures
Deadline: 9/18/17 by 12 noon

September 4, 2017

SEP



Felicia Marcus Chair and Board Members
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Marcus and Board Members:

My name is William Fjellbo and I am writing to you today to express my support for the proposed statewide wetlands regulation ("Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State") and ask that you and the other board members do the same. We have lost over 90% of the historic wetlands in this state and must do all we can to stop further harm, protect what remains and rebuild what we have lost.

As you know wetlands provide important habitat for many native species in this state, such as birds, reptiles, fish and amphibians among others. Wetlands improve water quality by filtering water. Realizing this, the homeowners in the development that I reside in are engaged in a multiyear project to restore and improve our wetlands. Wetlands also provide key protections from the rising ocean levels that climate change will bring.

Despite all of this President Trump has recently acted to roll back federal protections for wetlands. This is wholly unacceptable, and the state must do all it can to protect our resources from federal inaction. The State Water resources Control Board stands in a unique position to lead in the face of a federal retreat. I urge you to use your authority to adopt the statewide wetlands policy.

Sincerely,

William Fjellbo

Attorney at Law