

March 1, 2019

Joaquin Esquivel
Chair
State Water Resources Control Board

Members
State Water Resources Control Board

Eileen Sobeck
Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board

Dear Chair Esquivel, Members of the Board, and Ms. Sobeck:

On January 7, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom reinitiated discussions among interested parties to seek Voluntary Agreements that the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) could consider in its Water Quality Control Plan update for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and Watershed. These discussions have centered on how we can achieve multiple water quality, water supply, and sustainable water management objectives. The organizations listed below have actively participated in discussions over the past several weeks.

These efforts have made significant progress since the Water Board meeting on December 12, 2018. Today, the Directors of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Water Resources are submitting two documents that demonstrate this progress and identify additional work that is needed.

The first document is a Project Description of a set of Voluntary Agreements that is submitted for further analysis by Water Board staff. It is based on the framework agreement outlined on December 12 and must be assessed for legal and scientific adequacy. The second document is a Planning Agreement that outlines an approach to implementation and terms for the work effort still before us. These documents are intended to integrate flow and non-flow measures to establish water quality conditions that support (1) the viability of native fishes in the Bay-Delta watershed, and (2) the achievement of related objectives in the Bay-Delta Plan, as amended. Today's submission does not represent agreed-upon Voluntary Agreements. Rather, it is an important step that is worthy of further analysis and discussion.

As individuals representing our respective organizations in this process, we are committed to continue working with the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and other interested parties in an open and transparent process to assess and further develop this proposal. We remain committed to try to reach Voluntary Agreements that advance California on the path toward sustainable water management.

Sincerely,

Gene Mancebo
Amador Water Agency

Steve Rothert
American Rivers

Gary Justeson
Biggs-West Gridley Water District

Mark Orme
Butte Water District

Ernest Conant
US Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region

Chuck Bonham
CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Karla Nemeth
CA Department of Water Resources

Jeffrey Volberg
California Waterfowl

Christopher White
Central California Irrigation District

Marguerite Patil
Contra Costa Water District

Kim Delfino
Defenders of Wildlife

Michael Tognolini
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Jim Abercrombie
El Dorado Irrigation District

Maurice Hall
Environmental Defense Fund

Marcus Yasutake
City of Folsom

Jason Phillips
Friant Water Authority

Thad Bettner
Glenn Colusa Irrigation District

Ricardo Ortega
Grassland Water District

Donnie Stinnett
Joint Water Districts Board

Curtis Creel
Kern County Water Agency

Jeff Kightlinger
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

John Davids
Modesto Irrigation District

Jay Ziegler
The Nature Conservancy

David Guy
Northern California Water Association

Andrew Fecko
Placer County Water Agency

Lewis Bair
Reclamation District No. 108

Sean Earley
Richvale Irrigation District

Roger Cornwell
River Garden Farms

Richard Plecker
City of Roseville

Jim Peifer
City of Sacramento

Dan York
Sacramento Suburban Water District

Michael Carlin
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Christopher White
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority

Paul Helliker
San Juan Water District

Norma Camacho
Santa Clara Valley Water District

Roland Sanford
Solano County Water Agency

Jennifer Pierre
State Water Contractors

Brad Mattson
Sutter Mutual Water Company

Jeffrey Sutton
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority

Brian Johnson
Trout Unlimited

Casey Hashimoto
Turlock Irrigation District

Ted Trimble
Western Canal Water District

Thomas Birmingham
Westlands Water District

Curt Aikens
Yuba County Water Agency