

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 107
Martinez, California 94553-1293

John M. Gioia, 1st District
Candace Andersen, 2nd District
Diane Burgis, 3rd District
Karen Mltchoff, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

Contra Costa County



David J. Twa
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 335-1900

Public Comment
2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment & SED
Deadline: 3/17/17 12:00 noon

March 15, 2017



Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: PROPOSED SAN JOAQUIN RIVER INFLOW REQUIREMENTS
TO RESTORE FISHERIES AND WATER QUALITY IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY ESTUARY

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

As County Supervisors representing over a million people who live in Contra Costa County, including residents living along the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta, we are deeply interested in and supportive of the State Water Resources Control Board’s efforts to adopt new water quality standards for the great San Francisco Bay estuary. Our constituents depend on a healthy Bay for jobs, sustenance, recreation, and an unrivalled quality of life.

Phase 1 updates to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan will set minimum requirements for the amount of inflow from the tributary rivers of the San Joaquin basin to the estuary. Appropriate standards set in Phase 1 can begin to improve this degraded system and repair the damage of the past. Only a third or less of the natural runoff from these rivers now reaches the estuary, with catastrophic results for fisheries and water quality. We support timely and strong action by the Board to increase the vitally important flows on these overburdened rivers that feed the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The once great salmon runs of the San Joaquin River system have declined dramatically, contributing to historic closures of, and severe restrictions on, the Pacific Coast salmon fishery. This has had devastating impacts to thousands of men and women whose livelihood directly depends on that fishery, and has harmed many more in the seafood industry and those who consume its products. The drastic reduction in inflow also means that downstream water quality in the Delta and Bay continues to deteriorate, resulting in more frequent toxic algal blooms and higher concentrations of pollutants. Higher flows will contribute to the revival of our salmon fishery and improve water quality for all users.

California has adopted coequal state water policy goals of providing a more reliable water supply while simultaneously protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Science tells us that more flows are needed to protect and restore the estuary's living resources and water quality. Potential impacts to other beneficial uses of water can be ameliorated or avoided completely through Californians' technical ingenuity, willingness to conserve, and investments in alternative water supplies. Demand reduction, water use efficiency improvements, water recycling and reuse, stormwater recapture, and other tools can help offset any reductions in surface water supply resulting from restoring the flow of fresh water to the estuary, starting with the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

Our constituents in Contra Costa County and along the delta care deeply about the health of the Bay estuary. Last year, over two-thirds of the voters in the nine-county Bay Area approved a property tax measure to support restoration of the Bay's wetlands. During every drought period in the past few decades, Bay Area residents have stepped up to reduce water consumption significantly. Our region is willing to do its part to make this happen, and we expect everyone in the watershed to do theirs.

We are united in urging you to seize this once-in-a-generation opportunity to adopt new water quality standards for San Joaquin River and tributary flows to the estuary that protect our fisheries and water quality, and look forward to the Board's timely adoption of additional standards that ensure sufficient flow to San Francisco Bay.

Sincerely,

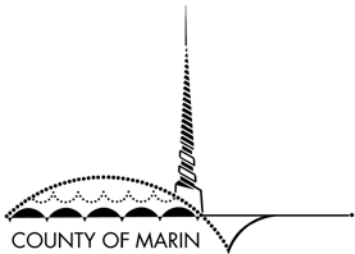


Karen Mitchoff
Supervisor, District IV
Contra Costa County



Diane Burgis
Supervisor, District III
Contra Costa County

Cc: State Water Resources Control Board Members
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board



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March 15, 2017

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Felicia Marcus
Chair, State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Proposed San Joaquin River Inflow Requirements to restore fisheries and water quality in the San Francisco Bay Estuary – SUPPORT

Dear Chairwoman Marcus,

On behalf of the Marin County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of the State Water Resources Control Board's efforts to adopt new water quality standards for the San Francisco Bay estuary.

Phase 1 updates to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan will set minimum requirements for the amount of inflow from the tributary rivers of the San Joaquin basin to the estuary. Appropriate standards set in Phase 1 can begin to improve this degraded system and repair the damage of the past. Only a third or less of the natural runoff from these rivers now reaches the estuary, with catastrophic results for fisheries and water quality. We support timely and strong action by the Board to increase the vitally important flows on these overburdened rivers that feed the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The once great salmon runs of the San Joaquin River system have declined dramatically, contributing to historic closures of, and severe restrictions on, the Pacific Coast salmon fishery. This has had devastating impacts to thousands of men and women whose livelihood directly depends on that fishery, and has harmed many more in the seafood industry and those who consume its products. The drastic reduction in inflow also means that downstream water quality in the Delta and Bay continues to deteriorate, resulting in more frequent toxic algal blooms and higher concentrations of pollutants. Higher flows will contribute to the revival of our salmon fishery and improve water quality for all users.

For these reasons, the Marin County Board of Supervisors supports adopting new water quality standards for San Joaquin River and tributary flows to the estuary that protect our fisheries and water quality.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Arnold, President
Marin County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Mike McGuire
Assembly Member Marc Levine

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 6



City and County of San Francisco

JANE KIM

March 14, 2017

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: PROPOSED SAN JOAQUIN RIVER INFLOW REQUIREMENTS TO RESTORE FISHERIES AND WATER QUALITY IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY ESTUARY

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

As elected officials representing millions of people who live in the Bay Area, we are deeply interested in and supportive of the State Water Resources Control Board's efforts to adopt new water quality standards for the great San Francisco Bay estuary. Our constituents depend on a healthy Bay for jobs, sustenance, recreation, and an unvalued quality of life.

Phase 1 updates to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan will set minimum requirements for the amount of inflow from the tributary rivers of the San Joaquin basin to the estuary. Appropriate standards set in Phase 1 can begin to improve this degraded system and repair the damage of the past. Only a third or less of the natural runoff from these rivers now reaches the estuary, with catastrophic results for fisheries and water quality. We support timely and strong action by the Board to increase the vitally important flows on these overburdened rivers that feed the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

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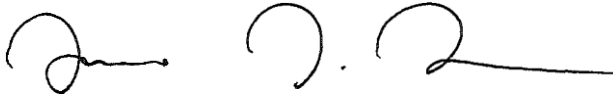
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ecosystem. Science tells us that more flows are needed to protect and restore the estuary's living resources and water quality. Potential impacts to other beneficial uses of water can be ameliorated or avoided completely through Californians' technical ingenuity, willingness to conserve, and investments in alternative water supplies. Demand reduction, water use efficiency improvements, water recycling and reuse, stormwater recapture, and other tools can help offset any reductions in surface water supply resulting from restoring the flow of fresh water to the estuary, starting with the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

Our constituents care deeply about the health of the Bay estuary. Last year, over two-thirds of the voters in the nine-county Bay Area approved a property tax measure to support restoration of the Bay's wetlands. During every drought period in the past few decades, Bay Area residents have stepped up to reduce water consumption significantly. Our region is willing to do its part to make this happen, and we expect everyone in the watershed to do theirs.

We are united in urging you to seize this once-in-a-generation opportunity to adopt new water quality standards for San Joaquin River and tributary flows to the estuary that protect our fisheries and water quality, and look forward to the Board's timely adoption of additional standards that ensure sufficient flow to San Francisco Bay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot at the end.

Supervisor Jane Kim

Cc: State Water Resources Control Board Members
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN
佩斯金 市參事

March 16, 2017

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Proposed San Joaquin River Inflow Requirements to Restore Fisheries and Water Quality in the San Francisco Bay Estuary

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

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Sincerely,



Aaron Peskin

Cc: State Water Resources Control Board Members
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board

HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS
400 COUNTY CENTER
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063



TEL: (650) 363-4571
FAX: (650) 368-3012
E-MAIL: dpine@co.sanmateo.ca.us

DAVE PINE
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT
SAN MATEO COUNTY

March 16, 2017

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Support for Proposed San Joaquin River Inflow Requirements to Restore Fisheries and Water Quality in the San Francisco Bay Estuary

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed San Joaquin River inflow requirements to restore fisheries and water quality in the San Francisco Bay Estuary. As a San Mateo County Supervisor, Chair of the SF Bay Restoration Authority, and a board member for the SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission, I have a keen appreciation for the importance of a healthy San Francisco Bay Estuary for local jobs, a vibrant ecosystem, recreation, and an unrivalled quality of life.

Phase 1 updates to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan will set minimum requirements for the amount of inflow from the tributary rivers of the San Joaquin basin to the estuary. Appropriate standards set in Phase 1 can begin to improve this degraded system and repair the damage of the past. Only a third or less of the natural runoff from these rivers now reaches the estuary, with catastrophic results for fisheries and water quality. I support timely and strong action by the Board to increase the vitally important flows on these overburdened rivers that feed the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

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California has adopted coequal state water policy goals of providing a more reliable water supply while simultaneously protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Scientific research makes clear that more flows are needed to protect and restore the estuary's living resources and water quality. Potential impacts to other beneficial uses of water can be ameliorated, or avoided completely, through Californians' technical ingenuity, willingness to conserve, and investments in alternative water supplies. Demand reduction, water use efficiency improvements, water recycling and reuse, stormwater recapture, and other tools can help offset any reductions in surface water supply resulting from restoring the flow of fresh water to the estuary, starting with the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

Last year, a remarkable 70.3% of the voters in the nine-county Bay Area approved a parcel tax measure to support restoration of the Bay's wetlands. During every drought period in the past few decades, Bay Area residents have stepped up to reduce water consumption significantly. Our region is willing to do its part, and we hope everyone in the watershed will do theirs.

The State Water Resources Control Board has a unique opportunity to adopt new water quality standards for San Joaquin River and tributary flows to the estuary that protect our fisheries and water quality. I urge you to adopt the proposed San Joaquin River inflow requirements, and I look forward to the Board's timely adoption of additional standards that will ensure sufficient freshwater flows to San Francisco Bay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Pine", with a stylized, cursive flourish.

Dave Pine
San Mateo County Supervisor, District 1

cc: The Honorable Jerry Hill, State Senator
The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assemblymember
State Water Resources Control Board Members
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board