



I've lived in Northern California for most of my life and water has been an issue! When we started the clean up of the Deltas in the late 70's and 80's I thought we had made some common sense decisions. The Delta's have not recovered but they are much better. Watching what is happening now with reducing water flow and increasing the salinity and water quality standards in the South Delta from 0.7 e.c. to 1.0 e.c., proves to me that we haven't learned our lessons from the past. :

- We need MORE fresh water released into the San Joaquin, not less. The State Water Board's own Delta Flows report released in August 2010 recommended more fresh water for the Delta!
- We need LESS salt in the San Joaquin River for use by Delta farmers, not more! The Delta farmers have senior water rights. They deserve the freshest water first, not the South San Joaquin valley farmers who have junior water rights, many of whom are mega-corporations and should not be getting subsidized water, let alone the freshest water. It is those desert farmlands that leech out salts and selenium into the runoff water. Save the Delta farms!

We need to think about FRESH water differently. As the state grows, we need to manage this resource for everyone not just a select few. We need legislation like Arizona's which basically states that landscaping in yards and public places be done with plants which are indigenous to the area. We've taken a desert in Southern Ca, and landscaped it as if there was plenty of water like the state of Washington! Crazy! Crazy! Taking land which really isn't fit for Almonds and other agriculture and then shipping the end product overseas is fine but those farmers shouldn't get preferential treat because they have the big bucks. Our state organizations are suppose to protect us from these kinds of harmful practices. Your suppose to protect us from people of influence and make the best decision for the State and small entities and if a solution can be worked out as a win win, great!  
Other wise, you have to protect those who can't protect themselves.

Tony Guarascio