



County of Yolo

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

625 Court Street, Room 204
Woodland, California 95695-1268
(530) 666-8195 FAX (530) 666-8193
www.yolocounty.org

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Clerk of the Board – Ana Morales

March 10, 2009

Secretary Mike Chrisman
Undersecretary Karen Scarborough
California Natural Resources Agency
Bay Delta Conservation Plan Steering Committee Members
1416 9th St, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Secretary Chrisman, Undersecretary Scarborough, and Committee Members:

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors would like to convey requests for action to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan Steering Committee. We've been given to understand that the recent presentations to the Board of Supervisors of some Delta counties did not convey information from the counties back to the Steering Committee. Thus we are trying to be certain that our concerns and request for response are communicated.

Enclosed is a set of the most recent policy documents adopted by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors on January 27, 2009. In the staff report itself are guidelines for Delta management decisions stating general principles and results desired from Delta-related decisions. The "Delta-Related Desired Outcomes List" shows a prioritized list of desired outcomes of Delta management decisions. The "Parameters for Delta related habitat projects" encompasses ground level, project related requirements that should be of especial interest to BDCP, since these are threshold conditions that should be designed into projects from the beginning. We recognize that some of the items in these documents aren't related to BDCP activities, but many are and we ask that you review them carefully.

Yolo County is in the cross hairs of BDCP's current conservation strategies. The January 12, 2009 draft of the BDCP contains a core element that proposes to modify the Fremont Weir and inundate the Yolo Bypass more frequently and for longer periods later in the agricultural season. Implementation of those proposals may cause, among other effects, the loss of over 60,000 acres of productive agriculture and jeopardize the 16,000-acre Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. We feel this deserves direct, written assurance from the BDCP Steering Committee that the full impact of such massive change will be completely addressed. The completed Bay Delta Conservation Plan must incorporate the following, related to BDCP activities in Yolo County:

- Preserve tax, assessment and other revenue sources and mitigate the costs of increased public services;
- Mitigate economic impacts of projects and management changes;
- Maintain a viable agricultural economy;
- Protect the Yolo County Natural Heritage Program; and
- Protect the Vic Fazio Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area and agriculture in the Bypass.

Please pay particular attention to the "Parameters" document, as noted above. We consider these items fundamental requirements for projects and proposals affecting Yolo County.

The BDCP process is rapidly moving forward, therefore we ask that you provide for us in a timely fashion substantive, responsive proposals for inclusion into the Plan. We hope these comments are sufficiently specific, and appreciate your consideration. Please contact me at 916.375.6440 or Julia McIver at 530.681.7372 if you have any questions.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike McGowan", written in a cursive style.

Mike McGowan, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Encl.
Delta Guiding Principles, adopted January 27, 2009

cc: Senator Lois Wolk
Assemblymember Mariko Yamada
Yolo Natural Heritage Program Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors
Solano, Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin Boards of Supervisors