
From: Bill Jacobson Consulting <bill@billjacobson.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2014 1:30 PM
To: BDCP.comments@noaa.gov
Subject: Bay Delta Conservation Plan DEIR/DEIS

25 July 2014

National Marine Fisheries Service
Attn: Ryan Wulff
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Bay Delta Conservation Plan DEIR/DEIS

Dear Mr. Wulff:

Overview

The Bay Delta Conservation Project (BDCP), also known as the “Twin Tunnel Project”, is in its basic function, a plan developed and supported by numerous private, corporate, State, Federal and NGO organizations to move and divert Northern California water. The BDCP states that this is a “long-term strategy to secure California’s water supplies and improve the ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.” [1] They reason that there are Co-Equal goals for the project, to improve water supply and to restore San Francisco Bay Delta ecosystems.

Our position is that 30 miles of water tunnels will negatively impact the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and Northern California aquatic wildlife ecology now, and for generations to come. Killing and destroying fish and aquatic life, wildlife, and infiltrating 30 miles plus of land mass as a means to divert water to large scale agribusiness and Southern California water districts is short sighted and is an unsustainable method of caring for our water, watershed ecology and natural resources living far beyond the Sacramento delta.

The Bay Delta Conservation Project claims that the following benefits will improve water supply and Bay Delta ecosystems: [2]

- Secure water supplies for a “vast” part of California economy from the Bay Area to San Diego and more than 3 million acres of farmland
- Create and protect jobs: Boost the economy by \$84 billion dollars
- Ecosystem Restoration for Delta fish and wildlife

These claims deserve our utmost attention and concern.

In securing water supplies for a “vast” part of California economy, what is the actual cost? The foundational economic goods and services of a healthy Bay Delta ecosystem include clean water, exclusion of salt water infiltration, rich land mass, food, beauty, recreation, tourism and many other benefits that sustain healthy Bay

Delta communities.

The study that states that creating and protecting jobs will boost the “economy” by \$84 billion dollars. Nature provides a wide array of market and non-market benefits to society, ranging from recreational and scenic qualities, to extractive uses such as fishing, farming, production of oxygen for the air we breathe. All Northern and Central California Tribes, planners, watershed managers, forest owners, natural resource agencies, scholars and businesses must be included in the research and communication process to adequately determine the value of nature’s capital assets.

In stating that ecosystem restoration for Delta fish and wildlife will be enhanced, do the majority the aforementioned voices Tribes, planners, watershed managers, flood rush managers, forest owners, natural resources agencies, etcetera, agree?

Our Viewpoint

The Social Alliance Network encourages all People and communities to urgently become informed on this attempt to disrupt our land, our native aquatic life, wildlife, waterways and way of life.

We also ask that NMFS not support this proposal to disrupt the long term sustainability of this watershed and associated ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Bill Jacobson
Founder
Social Alliance Network

Bibliography:

[1] see: Fast Facts of the BDCP <http://goo.gl/ioY2Nx>

[2] California Department of Water Resources: <http://www.water.ca.gov/tribal/bdcp.cfm>

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