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July 25, 2013

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980 Ninth St. Suite 1500
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Subject: Contra Costa Water District Comments on First Draft of the Delta Science Plan

Dear Dr. ~~Goodwin~~: *Peter*

Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the first draft of the Delta Science Plan. CCWD applauds the Delta Science Program's efforts to develop an overarching science plan to coordinate research among agencies, reduce the knowledge gap between science and policy makers, and prioritize research that is needed to inform sound public policy. The motto of 'One Delta, One Science' is strong and signals the importance of coordination and synthesis.

The first draft of the Science Plan could be improved by incorporating two key changes: 1) a focus on using existing agencies and personnel to meet the desired objectives and 2) identification of funding sources for the groups and activities that are proposed. These changes are described below.

The Delta Science Plan should include a chapter dedicated to describing existing science programs that could contribute to the 'One Delta, One Science' vision. If the review of existing agencies and efforts demonstrates that the objectives of the Delta Science Plan cannot be achieved by existing programs, then new entities could be proposed, with details regarding their responsibilities, legal authority, relationships to existing agencies, personnel requirements, and sources of funding.

The Delta Science Plan should describe the existing funding dedicated to Delta science and the additional funding required to accomplish the Delta Science Plan objectives. The new funding mechanisms proposed should be consistent with the regulatory authority of the Delta Science Program or agencies responsible for implementing the Delta Science Plan; if funding recommendations are outside the authority of the Delta Science Program or agencies responsible for implementing the

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Delta Science Plan, then mechanisms for implementing the recommendations should be included.

CCWD supports the creation and implementation of the Delta Science Plan and we look forward to reviewing subsequent drafts. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (925) 688-8083 or to call Maureen Martin at (925) 688-8323.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leah Orloff', written in a cursive style.

Leah Orloff
Water Resources Manager

LO/MM/jc