

**From:** [Jim Brobeck](#)  
**To:** [Delta.Plan.Comments@Deltacouncil](mailto:Delta.Plan.Comments@Deltacouncil)  
**Subject:** Final scoping comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 26, 2011 4:55:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [delta\\_stewardship\\_council\\_scoping.doc](#)

---

Please consider the attached comments on the Delta Stewardship Council plan. I would like to be informed about responses to my comments and the comments of other Northern Sacramento Valley stakeholders.

I live in the Butte Basin region of the Northern Sacramento Valley watershed. This area is home to the single remaining robust wild salmon run in the entire central valley, home to old growth valley oak/sycamore groves, home to hundreds of independent farmers, home of Sierra Nevada Brewery. Providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem must not come at the cost of destabilizing the Butte Basin hydrological balance. I suggest that you examine alternatives that do not increase demand on groundwater or encourage water transfer/sales out of the Northern Sacramento Valley.

Decreasing SOD demand on Sacramento Valley water must be a primary goal of Delta Stewardship. Improving water supply reliability begins with a responsibility to use water reasonably and to avoid acquiescing to the demand to pour water on salty, low-quality farmland in the San Joaquin Valley. I suggest that you analyze an alternative that reduces demand on the Delta by retiring low-quality farmland on the western side of the the San Joaquin Valley.

The state has a responsibility to ensure that disadvantaged communities can have access to safe and affordable drinking water. Forcing farm-worker communities to rely on aquifers contaminated by agricultural chemicals, while applying clean Sierra water to crops is a moral travesty. I suggest that you identify an alternative that places the quality of domestic water supplies in the forefront of objectives.

Although the state must *attempt* to plan for a water supply adequate to meet the needs of Californians, the state itself does not have the *obligation* to provide all of those supplies. The state cannot and should not assume responsibility to provide *all* of the water demanded by *all* water users in *all* locations. Planning a more reliable water supply means planning for periods of shortages. It is not possible to insure supplies to junior water right holders during dry years. Prolonged or severe droughts will require variable water delivery. I suggest that you analyze alternatives that emphasize and leverage the ability to deny water deliveries to junior water right holders south of the Delta.

The Butte Basin aquifer system provides the local economy and environment a modest buffer against long-term droughts that are part of the recent geological history of the North American west. We need this buffer. Surplus water will flow naturally. Squeezing more water out through groundwater substitution water transfers is not acceptable. The Butte Basin Aquifer system must *not* be viewed by Delta Planners as a back-stop for dry-year reservoir shortages. I demand that you create and analyze alternatives that recognize the value of intact balanced aquifers that are maintained at high water levels.

Jim Brobeck

1605 Manzanita Ave.

Chico, California

[DeltaPlanComment@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:DeltaPlanComment@deltacouncil.ca.gov)

I live in the Butte Basin region of the Northern Sacramento Valley watershed. This area is home to the single remaining robust wild salmon run in the entire central valley, home to old growth valley oak/sycamore groves, home to hundreds of independent farmers, home of Sierra Nevada Brewery. Providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem must not come at the cost of destabilizing the Butte Basin hydrological balance. I suggest that you examine alternatives that do not increase demand on groundwater or encourage water transfer/sales out of the Northern Sacramento Valley.

Decreasing SOD demand on Sacramento Valley water must be a primary goal of Delta Stewardship. Improving water supply reliability begins with a responsibility to use water reasonably and to avoid acquiescing to the demand to pour water on salty, low-quality farmland in the San Joaquin Valley. I suggest that you analyze an alternative that reduces demand on the Delta by retiring low-quality farmland on the western side of the the San Joaquin Valley.

The state has a responsibility to ensure that disadvantaged communities can have access to safe and affordable drinking water. Forcing farm-worker communities to rely on aquifers contaminated by agricultural chemicals, while applying clean Sierra water to crops is a moral travesty. I suggest that you identify an alternative that places the quality of domestic water supplies in the forefront of objectives.

Although the state must *attempt* to plan for a water supply adequate to meet the needs of Californians, the state itself does not have the *obligation* to provide all of those supplies. The state cannot and should not assume responsibility to provide *all* of the water demanded by *all* water users in *all* locations. Planning a more reliable water supply means planning for periods of shortages. It is not possible to insure supplies to junior water right holders during dry years. Prolonged or severe droughts will require variable water delivery. I suggest that you analyze alternatives that emphasize and leverage the ability to deny water deliveries to junior water right holders south of the Delta.

The Butte Basin aquifer system provides the local economy and environment a modest buffer against long-term droughts that are part of the recent geological history of the North American west. We need this buffer. Surplus water will flow naturally. Squeezing more water out through groundwater substitution water transfers is not acceptable. The Butte Basin Aquifer system must *not* be viewed by Delta Planners as a back-stop for dry-year reservoir shortages. I demand that you create and analyze alternatives that recognize the value of intact balanced aquifers that are maintained at high water levels.

Jim Brobeck

1605 Manzanita Ave.

Chico, California

**From:** [Jim Brobeck](mailto:Jim.Brobeck@Deltacouncil)  
**To:** [Delta Plan Comments@Deltacouncil](mailto:Delta.Plan.Comments@Deltacouncil)  
**Subject:** FW: final Delta Stewardship Council comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 26, 2011 3:01:53 PM

---

I live in the Butte Basin region of the Northern Sacramento Valley watershed. This area is home to the single remaining robust wild salmon run in the entire central valley, home to old growth valley oak/sycamore groves, home to hundreds of independent farmers, home of Sierra Nevada Brewery. Providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem must not come at the cost of destabilizing the Butte Basin hydrological balance.

Decreasing SOD demand on Sacramento Valley water must be a primary goal of Delta Stewardship. Improving water supply reliability begins with a responsibility to use water reasonably and to avoid acquiescing to the demand to pour water on salty, low-quality farmland in the San Joaquin Valley.

The state has a responsibility to ensure that disadvantaged communities can have access to safe and affordable drinking water. Forcing farm-worker communities to rely on aquifers contaminated by agricultural chemicals, while applying clean Sierra water to crops is a moral travesty.

Although the state must *attempt* to plan for a water supply adequate to meet the needs of Californians, the state itself does not have the *obligation* to provide all of those supplies. The state cannot and should not assume responsibility to provide *all* of the water demanded by *all* water users in *all* locations. Planning a more reliable water supply means planning for periods of shortages. It is not possible to insure supplies to junior water right holders during dry years. Prolonged or severe droughts will require variable water delivery.

The Butte Basin aquifer system provides the local economy and environment a modest buffer against long-term droughts that are part of the recent geological history of the North American west. We need this buffer. Surplus water will flow naturally. Squeezing more water out through groundwater substitution water transfers is not acceptable. The Butte Basin Aquifer system must *not* be viewed by Delta Planners as a back-stop for dry-year reservoir shortages.

Jim Brobeck  
1605 Manzanita Ave.  
Chico, California

---

From: [jrbrobeck@hotmail.com](mailto:jrbrobeck@hotmail.com)  
To: [jrbrobeck@hotmail.com](mailto:jrbrobeck@hotmail.com)  
Subject: DSC  
Date: Wed, 26 Jan 2011 13:12:53 -0700

Improving water supply reliability begins with a responsibility to use water reasonably, efficiently and to increase that efficiency over time.

Although the state must plan for a water supply adequate to meet the needs of Californians and the state economy, the state itself does not have the obligation to provide all of those supplies. The state cannot and should not assume responsibility to provide all of the water demanded by all water users in all locations. Water users bear a responsibility to take steps to plan responsibly and implement appropriate water supply programs.

The state has a responsibility to ensure that disadvantaged communities can have access to safe and affordable drinking water.

Planning a more reliable water supply requires a focus on cost-effectiveness and a "beneficiary pays" approach to financing within biological and hydrologic constraints.

Planning a more reliable water supply means planning for periods of shortages. It is not possible to provide supplies that are not subject to some uncertainty, for example, from prolonged or severe droughts.