

DIRECTORS

Eric Larrabee
Ken Anderson
Lance Tennis
Bryce Lundberg
Greg Johnson



**WESTERN CANAL
WATER DISTRICT**

OFFICERS

General Manager
& Secretary
Ted Trimble

Attorney
Jeffrey Meith
Minasian Law Firm

September 9, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

We are writing to express our concern with the draft Delta Plan being developed by the Delta Stewardship Council. Though the fifth draft plan shows some improvement over previous drafts, we are concerned it will not meet the co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem health in its current form.

We believe that the draft plan is vague about what kind of water supply we can expect in the future. Our area cannot adequately plan and pursue opportunities without some certainty as to our future water supplies. California simply cannot afford to advance any plan that creates local uncertainty and economic instability at this time.

Increasing the burden of regulatory in-stream flow requirements to up-stream water users redirects impacts to improve Delta water quality standards unjustly onto our northern California communities. The Alternate Plan provides a plan to develop management tools including local resource development, conveyance improvements while addressing Delta stressors to improve water supply reliability and ecosystem improvements.

Western Canal Water District (WCWD) has proven leadership in collaborating with diverse stakeholders to find local solutions to issues of statewide importance. Our Butte Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project is a successful demonstration of preserving and recovering spring-run salmon, restoring 25 miles of impeded flow while enhancing our water delivery reliability. Likewise, WCWD commits to working with the Council in achieving the co-equal goals in this manner.

We respectfully urge the council to fully consider these concerns and discuss the Alternate Delta Plan developed by statewide water, business and agricultural interests through the Ag-Urban Coalition. We urge council members to work with the coalition to identify the best options for meeting the co-equal goals. We simply must get this plan right for the sake of our water supply, our economy and our environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ted Trimble
General Manager