

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 25, 2018

Randy Fiorini  
Chair  
Delta Stewardship Council  
980 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments concerning WaterFix Consistency C20185

Dear Mr. Fiorini:

We write to encourage the Delta Stewardship Council (the Council) to reject the certification of consistency with the Delta Plan filed by the California Department of Water Resources (the Department) for the WaterFix project. We believe this project undermines the Delta Reform Act of 2009 and is inconsistent with the co-equal goals of protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem and providing a reliable water supply.

The California Department of Water Resources failed to submit evidence to meet the threshold for approval. California Water Code §85054 requires the Council to protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta. Here, the environmental impact report and environmental impact statement submitted by the Department fail to adequately consider mitigation measures, including the loss of agricultural land, the impact upon hydrology, and the restoration of habitat.

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned about the cost of the tunnels, recently estimated at \$25 billion, with no guarantee that water will be produced or water sustainability be increased. Rather, the Council should be focused on how to improve existing programs and promote new approaches that capture stormwater, include recycling programs, and conserve existing water resources in order to protect flows to the Delta.

In conclusion, we strongly believe that the WaterFix proposal before the Council is inconsistent with the Delta Plan, and we urge the Council to reject it. As always, we stand ready to work together to ensure a reliable water supply and a healthy Delta for the small business, farmers, and communities that rely on it throughout California.

Sincerely,

  
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JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

  
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MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress

  
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JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress

  
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DORIS MATSUI  
Member of Congress

  
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MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress