

1 Michael A. Brodsky
2 Law Offices of Michael A. Brodsky
3 201 Esplanade, Upper Suite
4 Capitola, CA 95010
5 Telephone: (831) 469-3514
6 Facsimile: (831) 471-9705
7 Email: michael@brodskylaw.net
8 SBN 219073

9 Attorney for Protestants Save the California Delta Alliance, et al.

10 **BEFORE THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL**

11 **IN RE APPEAL NO. C20185-A2**
12 **APPEAL OF CALIFORNIA**
13 **DEPARTMENT OF WATER**
14 **RESOURCES CERTIFICATION OF**
15 **CONSISTENCY OF CALIFORNIA**
16 **WATERFIX/BDCP ALTERNATIVE**
17 **4A**

18 **PROTESTANT SAVE THE CALIFORNIA**
19 **DELTA ALLIANCE'S OPENING BRIEF**

20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

1 On September 28, 2018, the Delta Stewardship Council ("Council") issued a Supplement to
2 the Notice of Public Hearing ("Hearing Supplement") directing questions at specified parties in
3 these appeal proceedings. In the first part of this brief, Save the California Delta Alliance ("Delta
4 Alliance") herein answers the questions directed to it, as well as answering/commenting upon select
5 questions directed to other parties. In the second part of this brief, Delta Alliance further expands
6 upon and supplements the arguments and evidence submitted with its appeal, Appeal ID: C20185-
7 A2, submitted on August 26, 2018.

8 **PART 1: ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN HEARING SUPPLEMENT**

9 **I. Questions 2a And 2b On Supplement Page 4 Directed To The California
10 Department Of Water Resources ('DWR').**

11 The questions appear to confuse or conflate the 2016 California WaterFix Aquatic Science
12 Peer Review with the 2003 "Strategic Review of CALSIM II and its Use for Water Planning,
13 Management, and Operations in Central California." Questions 2a and 2b refer to Delta Alliance's
14 Appeal at page 5, which discusses both the Aquatic Science Peer Review and the Strategic Review.
15 The questions ask only if DWR ever responded to the Aquatic Science Peer Review whereas Delta
16 Alliance pointed out that DWR never attempted to document the validity of its model as pointed out
17 in the Strategic Review. It is the Strategic Review that remains uncontradicted as to a fatal flaw in
18 all of DWR's modeling for WaterFix.

19 The fatal flaw in all of DWR's extensive modeling, confirmed by the Strategic Review, is
20 that it is undisputed that the model cannot predict accurately in absolute terms. Despite knowing
21 this, DWR posits that the model predicts accurately in relative terms and is therefore useful in
22 comparing various scenarios even though none of the scenarios is predicted accurately. The
23 Strategic Review rejects this assumption and states that "this feature of the model is something that
24 would need to be documented rather than merely assumed." (Strategic Review, p.9.) The
25 appropriate question to be directed at DWR is, has DWR ever documented this feature of the model
26 (ability to predict accurately in relative terms even though it cannot predict accurately in absolute
27 terms)?
28

1 Absent an answer from DWR, the modeling flaw confirmed by the Strategic Review stands
2 as uncontradicted expert evidence reflecting the generally accepted view in the relevant scientific
3 community that the modeling is fatally flawed. Therefore, there is no evidence, substantial or
4 otherwise, in the record before the agency to support any of DWR's claims with regard to
5 WaterFix's ability to meet D-1641, or to support any of DWR's contentions about impacts or lack
6 thereof on water quality, aquatic species, and water supply. All of DWR's contentions with regard to
7 these matters rely entirely on its fatally flawed modeling.

8 **II. Question 9 On Supplement Page 7 Directed To DWR.**

9 Question 9 flags DWR's argument that it need not comply with all elements of WR P1
10 because "compliance with WR P1(c)(1)(B) and (c)(1)(C) is neither feasible nor required to
11 demonstrate reduced reliance," and compliance with WR P1 is not the "exclusive means" to
12 demonstrate reduced reliance. (DWR WR P1 Attachment, p. 3-50.) DWR is mistaken. The core
13 compliance requirements of WR P1 are WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C). DWR may not ignore core
14 compliance requirements (B) & (C) or propound its own alternative means of demonstrating
15 reduced reliance.

16 **A. The Object Of WR P1 Is The Water Management Planning Process And Water**
17 **Suppliers Cannot Demonstrate Compliance Outside Their Water Management**
Plans.

18 The import of WR P1 is to require urban and agricultural water suppliers who receive Delta
19 water to adopt Urban and Agricultural Water Management Plans and to include specified provisions
20 in those plans--or to risk any covered action undertaken in the Delta that provides them with water
21 being found inconsistent with the Delta Plan. The object of the regulation *is* the water management
22 planning process.

23 Early on, the Council identified the lack of participation in the state-law required water
24 management planning process as a significant impediment to reducing reliance on the Delta. Just
25 before the draft text of WR P1, the Fifth Staff Draft Delta Plan explains the problem that WR P1
26 was crafted to address:

27 Many agricultural and urban water suppliers throughout the state are taking action to
28 improve water conservation and efficiency and to expand their local and regional
water supplies. However, many others are not. Despite laws requiring preparation
and implementation of Urban Water Management Plans and Agricultural Water

1 Management Plans, many agencies still regard these plans as voluntary because the
2 only consequence of not completing them is that the water supplier becomes
ineligible to receive State grant and loan funding for water projects

3 (Fifth Staff Draft Delta Plan, p.81.)

4 Under "Problem Statement" immediately preceding the draft of WR P1, the Fifth Staff Draft
5 Delta Plan noted:

6 The lack of full participation by water suppliers throughout the state in planning and
7 implementing plans and projects that will improve California's water supply
8 reliability and reduce reliance on the Delta is a significant impediment to achieving
the coequal goals.

9 (Fifth Staff Draft Delta Plan, p.81–82.) The text of the then-draft regulation goes on to require that
10 both urban and agricultural water suppliers "adopt and implement an Urban [or agricultural] Water
11 Management Plan." (Fifth Staff Draft Delta Plan, p.82.)

12 Various water suppliers have argued in court that that there was no substantial evidence
13 before this Council to support the need for WR P1 when the Council adopted the regulation in 2013.

14 The Council responded in its trial court briefing:

15 Additional evidence shows that while some regions are taking significant steps to
16 reduce their reliance on Delta waters, others are not. For example, the most recent
17 data indicate that 15 percent of urban agencies are out of compliance with a state law
18 requirement that they submit a water management plan to the Department of Water
19 Resources (DWR). Moreover, DWR did not review the submitted plans for
completeness, and in prior years many submitted plans failed to even include
20 conservation measures. Water Contractors assert that the Council engaged in pure
21 speculation because it assumed that some delinquent agencies rely on Delta waters.
22 But because more than two-thirds of the residents of the state received Delta waters,
it is likely that a significant number of noncompliant agencies receive Delta waters.

23 Finally, WR P1 does not only address agencies that have failed to submit their plans.
24 It goes further and calls upon agencies that did submit plans to have commenced
25 implementation of locally cost effective and technically feasible projects which
26 reduce reliance on the Delta.

27 The need for WR P1 is therefore fully supported by substantial evidence in the
28 record.

(Delta Stewardship Council Cases, JCCP 4785, Respondent and Defendant Delta Stewardship
Council's Opposition Brief, p.39–40, filed April 6, 2015 [citations and quotation marks omitted].)

The evidence upon which the Council relied in justifying the need for WR P1 was a failure of water
suppliers to comply with state law requirements regarding their water management plans.

1 WR P1 is intended to raise the stakes for water suppliers of not completing adequate water
2 management plans. It would frustrate the intent of the regulation to allow DWR to propound its
3 own, alternative means outside the water management planning process to purportedly demonstrate
4 reduced reliance.

5 **B. WR P1 (c)(1)(A), (B) & (C) Are The Delta Plan's Three Core Compliance**
6 **Requirements For Demonstrating Reduced Reliance And Water Suppliers Must**
7 **Comply With All Of Them Within Their Water Management Plans.**

8 **1. The Plain Text Of The Regulation Shows That WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) &**
9 **(C) Are All Mandatory Elements Of Demonstrating Reduced Reliance.**

10 The plain text of WR P1, as currently codified in the California Code of Regulations at 23
11 CCR § 5003, makes clear that the adoption of Water Management Plans and inclusion of certain
12 elements in those plans is mandatory and failure to comply will render a future covered action to
13 export water from, or transfer water through, the Delta inconsistent with the Delta Plan if that action
14 has a significant adverse environmental impact in the Delta and the need for the action was
15 significantly caused by a water supplier's failure to comply with 23 CCR § 5003.

16 23 CCR § 5003 provides in pertinent part:

17 (a) Water shall not be exported from, transferred through, or used in the Delta
18 if all of the following apply:

19 (1) One or more water suppliers that would receive water as a result of the export,
20 transfer, or use have failed to adequately contribute to reduced reliance on the Delta
21 and improved regional self-reliance *consistent with all of the requirements listed in*
22 *paragraph (1) of subsection (c);*

23 (23 CCR § 5003, emphasis added.) DWR argues that water suppliers may demonstrate reduced
24 reliance by complying with some, but not all requirements of paragraph 1 of subsection (c) of WR
25 P1. However the plain text of the regulation states failure occurs where there is not compliance
26 consistent with *all of the requirements listed in paragraph (1) of subsection (c)*.

27 The requirements of paragraph 1 of subsection (c) are in turn stated as follows:

28 (c)(1) Water suppliers that have done all of the following are contributing to reduced
reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance and are therefore consistent
with this policy:

(A) Completed a current Urban or Agricultural Water Management Plan (Plan)
which has been reviewed by the California Department of Water Resources for
compliance with the applicable requirements of Water Code Division 6, Parts 2.55,
2.6, and 2.8;

(B) Identified, evaluated, and commenced implementation, consistent with the

1 implementation schedule set forth in the Plan, of all programs and projects included
2 in the Plan that are locally cost effective and technically feasible which reduce
reliance on the Delta; and

3 (C) Included in the Plan, commencing in 2015, the expected outcome for measurable
4 reduction in Delta reliance and improvement in regional self-reliance. The expected
5 outcome for measurable reduction in Delta reliance and improvement in regional
6 self-reliance shall be reported in the Plan as the reduction in the amount of water
used, or in the percentage of water used, from the Delta watershed. For the purposes
of reporting, water efficiency is considered a new source of water supply, consistent
with Water Code section 1011(a).

7 (23 CCR § 5003(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C).) Summarized, the three requirements of WR P1 listed above
8 are (A) to *comply* with state water management laws by adopting a current water management plan
9 that has been reviewed by DWR; (B) to *analyze and implement* all technically feasible, locally cost-
10 effective programs specified in the Water Management Plan; and (C) to *report*, commencing in
11 2015, in the Water Management Plan the expected reduction in Delta reliance and improvement in
12 regional self-reliance brought about as a result of implementing (B). These are the three core
13 compliance requirements of WR P1 ("compliance requirements").

14 **2. Delta Plan Appendix G Explains That The Three Mandatory Core**
15 **Compliance Requirements Of WR P1 Are WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C).**

16 DWR argues that they may demonstrate achieving reduced reliance on the Delta and
17 improved regional self-reliance by means alternative to those specified in the three WR P1 core
18 compliance requirements. However, Appendix G to the Delta Plan is titled "Achieving Reduced
19 Reliance on the Delta and Improved Regional Self-Reliance, and makes clear that the three
20 compliance requirements are "core" and are the mandatory means of achieving reduced reliance.
21 Appendix G states that "There are three core compliance requirements in WR P1. Water Suppliers
22 *must:*"

23 1. **Comply with specified water management laws.** Water suppliers *must* have
24 a current urban or agricultural water management plan that has been reviewed for
compliance with applicable laws by the California Department of Water Resources
(DWR).

25 2. **Analyze and Implement.** Water suppliers *must* have identified, evaluated,
26 and commenced implementation, consistent with the schedule they identify in their
plan, of the technically feasible, locally cost-effective programs that will reduce their
27 reliance on the Delta.

28 3. **Report.** Water suppliers *must* report on the expected outcome for measurable
reduction in the amount of water used, or in the percentage of water used, from the
Delta watershed, starting in 2015.

1
2 (Delta Plan, Appendix G, p. G-4, emphasis on must added.) These are the same three core
3 compliance requirements stated in 23 CCR § 5003(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C). DWR contends it need not
4 comply with (B) or (C), however the regulation is mandatory as to all three and nothing in the
5 regulation, or the Council's contemporaneous interpretation of the regulation in Appendix G, allows
6 any alternative means of compliance.

7 **3. There Is No Doubt That Core Requirements (A), (B) & (C) Must Be**
8 **Achieved By And Demonstrated Within The Water Management Plan**
9 **Of Each Water Supplier.**

10 There is no doubt that core compliance requirements (A), (B) & (C) must be achieved within
11 the Water Management Plan of each water supplier. In the context of an example consistency
12 certification, Delta Plan Appendix G provides the following:

13 Water Supplier A will need to provide a finding in the consistency certification form
14 as to whether one or more water suppliers that will receive water as a result of its
15 proposed transfer have failed to comply with the three requirements. The three
16 compliance requirements are:

17 1. *Comply with specified water management laws.* Each water supplier has a
18 *current water management plan* that has been reviewed for compliance with
19 applicable laws by the California Department of Water Resources.

20 2. *Analyze and implement.* Each water supplier has identified, evaluated, and
21 commenced implementation, consistent with the schedule they identify *in their plan*,
22 of the technically feasible, locally cost-effective programs and projects that will
23 reduce reliance on the Delta.

24 3. *Report. Commencing with the 2015 Plan,* each water supplier has
25 *documented in its current plan* the expected outcome for measurable reduction in
26 Delta reliance and improvement in regional self-reliance from implementation of
27 their programs and projects. This shall be reported as the reduction in the amount of
28 water used, or in the percentage of water used, from the Delta watershed.

(Delta Plan, Appendix G, p. G-3, emphasis added)

Appendix G is the Council's longstanding interpretation of its own regulation and was
adopted by the Council in 2013 after notice and comment from the public contemporaneous with
promulgation of WR P1. The Fifth Staff Draft quoted above was circulated for comment in August
of 2011 and reflects the agency's considered understanding of WR P1, as that regulation was in
development. The text of WR P1, the Council's own longstanding interpretation of WR P1, and the
administrative history of WR P1 point only in one direction: water suppliers *must* meet the letter of

1 all three core compliance requirements to be in conformance with WR P1. The Council cannot now
2 vacillate and accept a completely contrary position proffered by DWR as an "alternative" to WR P1.

3 A court will defer to an agency's interpretation of its own regulation if there is "evidence that
4 the agency has consistently maintained the interpretation in question, especially if it is long-
5 standing." (*Yamaha Corp of America v, State Bd, of Equalization* (1998) 19 Cal. 4th 1, 13
6 [quotation marks and citations omitted].) However, "A vacillating position is entitled to no
7 deference." (*Id.*)

8 The only court to interpret WR P1 held that compliance with the core compliance
9 requirements is *mandatory*:

10 WR P1 *requires* Delta water suppliers to perform specified actions prior to water
11 usage, including completion of an Urban or Agricultural Water Management Plan.
12 Water Suppliers also *must* implement projects included *in the plan* that reduce
13 reliance and which are locally cost effective and technically feasible.
14 (Delta Stewardship Council Cases, JCCP 4785, Ruling on Submitted Matter: Petitions for Writ of
15 Mandate, Filed May 18, 2016, p.11, emphasis added.) ("Ruling on Submitted Matter") (Attachment
16 1)

17 In reaching its holding, the Delta Stewardship Council Cases trial court summarized this
18 Council's position, consistent with the mandatory nature of the provisions, as follows:
19 "Additionally, Respondent asserts that WR P1 (23 CCR section 5003) prevents the use of Delta
20 water if a receiving water supplier fails to 'adequately contribute to reduced reliance on the Delta' *as*
21 *shown by:*" compliance with WR P1 (c)(1)(A), (B) & (C), which are set out in full after the colon.
22 (Ruling on Submitted Matter, p. 11, emphasis added.)

23 DWR cannot show compliance with WR P1, or demonstrate reduced reliance, in any way
24 other than complying with the letter of WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C).

25 **C. DWR Has Waived Its Argument That Compliance with WR P1(c)(1)(B)&(C) Is
26 Infeasible Because DWR's Own Misconduct Substantially Contributed To
27 Water Supplier's Failure To Comply With WR P1.**

28 DWR participated in the development of the Delta Plan and provided written comments to
the Council during the development process. DWR did not raise any questions with regard to the
feasibility of implementing WR P1. Further, DWR is a member of the committee of agencies

1 statutorily charged with implementing the Delta Plan under the Council's oversight. Water code
2 section 85204 provides that "The council shall establish and oversee a committee of agencies
3 responsible for implementing the Delta Plan. Each agency shall coordinate its actions pursuant to
4 the Delta Plan with the council and the other relevant agencies." The Council has established the
5 Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee ("DPIIC"), which DWR participates in. (*See*
6 *Council DPIIC Factsheet Flyer*) (Attachment 2). However, rather than carry out its statutory duty to
7 implement WR P1, DWR is complicit in the failure of water suppliers throughout the state to
8 comply with WR P1.

9 DWR participated in the development of the Delta Plan and knew well ahead of the Delta
10 Plan's adoption in May of 2013, and final approval of its regulations by the Office of Administrative
11 Law in September of 2013, that water suppliers' 2015 Urban and Agricultural Water Management
12 Plans were required to contain the core compliance requirements of WR P1. However, rather than
13 provide guidance to water suppliers to help them comply with WR P1, DWR failed to carry out its
14 statutory duty by remaining silent. In its extensive engagement with water suppliers throughout the
15 state with regard to their 2015 Water Management Plans, DWR acted as if the Delta Reform Act,
16 the Council, the Delta Plan, and WR P1 did not exist.

17 DWR's 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook, including appendices, as well as a
18 power point it presented to gatherings of water suppliers as guidance for developing their 2015
19 Water Management Plans, make no mention of the Delta Reform Act, the Council, the Delta Plan,
20 or WR P1. The words "reduced reliance" do not appear in these documents. (Attachment 3) In its
21 guidance for 2015 Water Management Plans, DWR engaged in, at best, a course of conduct
22 characterized by gross negligence towards its statutory duty to implement WR P1.

23 DWR comes to the WR P1 compliance question with unclean hands. DWR cannot now
24 argue "infeasibility" when it substantially caused the WR P1 compliance failure by its own
25 misconduct, whether grossly negligent or willful.

26 The Council must find a covered action inconsistent with the Delta Plan where: (1) one or
27 more water suppliers who will receive Delta water as a result of a covered action fail to meet the
28 letter of *all* of WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C); (2) the covered action has a significant adverse

1 environmental impact on the Delta; and (3) the failure to comply with all of WR P1(c)(1)(A), (B) &
2 (C) by one or more water suppliers who will receive water as a result of the covered action
3 significantly caused the need for the covered action. DWR has admitted that water suppliers who
4 will receive water as a result of WaterFix have not complied with WR P1(c)(1)(B) & (C); element 1
5 for a finding of non-consistency is met. As shown below in section ___ of this brief, elements 2 and
6 3 are also met, requiring the Council to find that California WaterFix is inconsistent with WR P1.
7 The Council has stated that WR P1 "is the very core of the Delta Plan." (Delta Stewardship Council
8 Cases, JCCP 4785, Respondent and Defendant Delta Stewardship Council's Reply to Electing
9 Petitioners' and Water Contractors' Opposition to Bifurcation, p. 3:6–9, filed May 9, 2014.) A
10 finding of inconsistency with WR P1, therefore, requires that California WaterFix be found
11 inconsistent with the Delta Plan and this appeal sustained.

12 **III. Question 1 On Supplement Page 2 Directed To Delta Alliance.**

13 Question 1 asks for citations to the record demonstrating that WaterFix Mitigation Measures
14 TRANS-1a, and AMM7 are not as effective as Delta Plan PEIR mitigation measures 19-1, 19-2, 19-
15 3 and 19-4.

16 **A. AMM7 Barge Operations Plan Contains No Measures To Mitigate Impacts Of**
17 **Barge Operations On Marine Or Roadway Traffic And Lacks Specified**
18 **Measures Called For in Delta Plan PEIR Mitigation Measure 19-1.**

19 There is no barge operations plan, but only a promise to develop a barge operations plan at
20 some unspecified future time. The "barge operations plan" is described in 3/4 of a page at page 3B-
21 30 of FEIR Appendix 3B, and half a page at page 3B-107. A cursory review of Attachment 2
22 reveals the lack of substance.

23 The barge operations plan will not contain *any* measures aimed at mitigating substantial
24 impacts on roadway traffic that will be caused by frequent drawbridge openings to allow barges to
25 pass. (See WaterFix FEIR pages 3B-30:6–32 and 3B-107:2–22 which constitute the entire
26 description of the barge operations plan. In fact, the barge operations plan will contain no measures
27 to mitigate *any* impacts on marine or road traffic, or on recreation. The barge operations plan's only
28 components will be "[t]o address the following potential impacts on aquatic habitat and species
from barge and tugboat operations associated with water conveyance facilities construction."

1 (WaterFix FEIR, p. 3B-30:6–7.) The complete list of potential impacts the barge operations plan
2 will address is found at WaterFix FEIR page 3B-30:18–26 and repeated at page 3B-107:10–17.

3 The complete ineffectiveness of the Barge Operations Plan and Mitigation Measure Trans-
4 1a are also established by the testimony of Captain Frank Morgan. (SCDA-301, x.4.000013, pp.17–
5 19.)

6 The Delta Plan PEIR Mitigation Measure 19-1 calls for "taking into account all modes of
7 transportation." (Delta Plan PEIR, p.19-46:4–5.) The WaterFix barge operations plan does not take
8 account of impacts on *any* means of transportation but focuses solely on the impacts of barge
9 operations on species. The Delta Plan PEIR Mitigation Measure 19-1 calls for "a waterway traffic
10 control plan" that "will identify and implement alternate detour routing" for boaters. (Delta Plan
11 PEIR, p. 19-47:25, 33.) The barge operations plan does not address marine traffic at all.

12 The barge operations plan is to be developed at some future unspecified date, not by
13 agencies with a duty to protect the public, but by WaterFix construction contractors. (Barge
14 operations plans "will be developed and submitted by the construction contractors... ." (WaterFix
15 FEIR, Appendix 3B, p. 3B-107:3–4.)

16 **B. WaterFix Mitigation Measure Trans-1a Lacks Specified Measures Called For in**
17 **Delta Plan Mitigation Measure 19-1.**

18 WaterFix Mitigation Measure Trans-1a does not contain the following measures included in
19 Delta Plan mitigation measure 19-1: a temporary channel closure plan (PEIR, p. 19-47:32); identify
20 alternate detour routing for boats in case of channel closure (PEIR, p. 19-47:33); vessel traffic
21 control measures to minimize congestion (PEIR, p. 19-47:27). WaterFix does not to the extent
22 feasible, ensure that safe boat access to public launch and docking facilities, businesses, and
23 residences is maintained (PEIR, p.19-47:36–37.) In particular, access to Bullfrog Marina will be
24 blocked by channel closure and construction activity, likely driving this mainstay of Delta
25 recreation out of business. (Attachment 11, letter from Bullfrog Marina.) Access to the Clarksburg
26 public fishing access area / boat launch will also be effectively blocked by deafening noise from
27 WaterFix pile driving across the river. (SCDA-65, testimony of acoustical engineer Charles Salter,
28 X.4.000015, p.5:19–24 and p.6:1–2 ["Clarksburg Fishing Access Area will be subject to noise

1 levels of up to 91 dBA from pile driving directly across the river" and individuals "will avoid the
2 Clarksburg Fishing Access Area" due to the noise].)

3 Feasible mitigations to avoid the noise from pile driving exist but DWR has refused to adopt
4 them. (SCDA-125, testimony of structural engineer Rune Storesund, x.4.000025, p.1:2–8; Letter
5 from Malcolm Drilling Company attached to Storesund testimony.) Delta Alliance has provide
6 DWR with a technical brochure describing alternative techniques that would avoid the devastating
7 noise impacts from pile driving, (SCDA-127, x.4.000025, brochure attached to testimony of Rune
8 Storesund), and has provided a bid from a leading foundations company of \$250 per lineal foot to
9 install drilled piers for the WaterFix intake foundation structures. (x.4.000025, SCDA-127, Letter
10 from Malcolm Drilling Company, p.2, attached to Storesund testimony.)

11 Impacts on roadway traffic will be particularly severe at the Old River Bridge on Highway
12 4, near Discovery Bay, which may be opened eight or more times per day to allow passage of
13 WaterFix Barges bound for the Clifton Court Forebay Barge Landing. (*See* SCDA-301, testimony
14 of Captain Frank Morgan, p. 9:26–28; p. 10:1–3.) The California WaterFix FEIR entirely failed to
15 recognize impacts on roadway traffic due to WaterFix barge-caused bridge openings. (SCDA-100,
16 x.4.000024, testimony of traffic engineer Chris Kinzel, p. 1:22–27 and p. 2:1–5 [project planners
17 assumption that "additional raising of draw bridges in the study area would not be required
18 (WaterFix FEIR, p.19-232)" is "a startling engineering error on the part of Project planners"].)
19 Currently, the bridge on Highway 4 at Old River is rarely opened for marine traffic, perhaps once a
20 month at most, as this is not a popular route for pleasure boaters. (SCDA-301, x.4.000013,
21 testimony of Captain Frank Morgan, p.10:1–2.) This traffic impact, unaddressed in the WaterFix
22 FEIR, will cause Highway 4 to be gridlocked from Byron Highway to Middle River. (SCDA-301,
23 p.9:28; p.10:1.). This impact will be caused by a combination of bridge openings and heavy usage
24 of this stretch of Highway 4 for WaterFix truck traffic.

25 The Highway 4 Bridge at Old River provides minimal clearance for a large barge, even
26 when the bridge is open. The Bridge is old and dilapidated. (See Attachments 14, 15, 16, pictures of
27 Old River Highway 4 Bridge.) The WaterFix Barges are estimated to be approximately 50 feet wide
28 and 250 feet long with tug boats measuring 35 feet wide and 65 to 100 feet long. (SCDA-103, p.

1 152, 154.) A picture of a representative barge and tug is seen at SCDA-72. (x.4.000016.) Passage of
2 the WaterFix barges and tugs past the Old River Bridge is sure to lead to a traffic catastrophe.

3 Delta Plan PEIR Mitigation Measure 19-1 calls for a number of roadway improvements as
4 mitigation measures: Roadway widening to add lanes or shoulders; flaring intersections to add turn
5 lanes, provision of passing lanes or turnouts; and protected left-turn pockets. (Delta Plan PEIR, p.
6 19-47:10–23.) WaterFix Mitigation Measure Trans-1a specifies that the only instance in which
7 projects proponents will implement a roadway improvement will be a single right hand turn lane on
8 Hood Franklin Road. WaterFix FEIR, p. 19-56: 6.

9 Roadway improvements are essential at Highway 4 between Byron Highway and Middle
10 River due to the traffic impacts described above, yet none are included.

11 Consistent with the above evidence, Traffic Engineer Chris Kinzel reviewed WaterFix
12 mitigation measures trans-1a, 1b, and 1c, and concluded they would be ineffective. (SCDA-100,
13 x.4.000014, p.7.)

14 **IV. Question 1 on Supplement Page 9 Directed to DWR.**

15 This question relates to the fact that WaterFix changes the point where Sacramento River
16 inflow is measured from Freeport to a point downstream of the new intakes and excludes all NDD
17 diversions from the export total for purposes of calculating the D-1641 export/inflow ratio.

18 **A. WaterFix Changes The Export Inflow Compliance Point And Excludes All**
19 **NDD Diversions From The Export Term of The E-I Ratio, Allowing Increased**
20 **Summer Exports: This Substantial Increase In Export Capacity Is Not**
21 **Consistent With ER P1 Because it Does Not Comply with D-1641.**

22 There is no doubt that WaterFix changes this D-1641 compliance point. There is also no
23 doubt that all of DWR's assertions, based upon Calsims modeling, that WaterFix will continue to
24 meet D-1641 are misleading because they mean that WaterFix will meet D-1641 *as DWR proposes*
25 *to redefine the export/inflow ratio*. Under the "new" D-1641 export/inflow ratio, *none* of the water
26 exported through the new North Delta Intakes counts as exported water for purposes of the
27 export/inflow ratio. Therefore, DWR could export unlimited water through the NDD without ever
28 exceeding the export/inflow ratio. This is a startling and significant change in D-1641 allowing
substantially more water to be exported under WaterFix than would currently be allowed.

1 Under cross-examination (under oath) DWR witness Jennifer Pierre admitted the change in
2 the export/inflow compliance point and admitted that all of DWR's modeling that purports to show
3 that WaterFix will meet D-1641 shows only that it will meet D-1641 as DWR has redefined D-
4 1641:

5 Mr. Brodsky: It's a yes or no question. You're changing the location of where the
6 flow of the Sacramento River is measured to calculate the export-
inflow ratio; yes or no?

7 Witness Pierre: That's correct.

8 Mr. Brodsky: To the right there, it says "Summary of CALSIMS
9 modeling assumptions." It says, "Combined export rate is defined as
10 the diversion rate of the Banks Pumping Plant and Jones Pumping
11 Plant from the South Delta Channels. Delta inflow is defined as the
12 sum of the Sacramento river flow downstream of the proposed North
13 Delta diversion intakes, the Old Bypass flow, Mokelumne River flow,
Cosumnes flow," et cetera, et cetera. The Point there is that inflow is
measured downstream of the new intake. So for purposes of the
CALSIMS modeling that was presented to the Board, you took the
measurement of Sacramento River flow at a point different from
Freeport; isn't that correct?

14 Witness Pierre: Yes, that's what's being proposed in this criteria, and that's how it was
15 also modeled.

16 (State Water Resources Control Board California WaterFix Hearing Transcript, July 29, 2016, Part
17 1A, Transcript Vol. 4, p.231:12–25; p.232:1–8 [transcript attached to Delta Alliance Appeal No.
18 C20185-A2; the transcript is also included as attachment 1 to Delta Alliance's FEIR comments of
19 July 9, 2017, and included at x.4.000410].)

20 The June 23, 2017, United States Fish and Wildlife Service Final Biological Opinion for the
21 California WaterFix ("USFWS BiOp") includes Table 6.1.2. New and existing water operations
22 flow criteria and relationship to assumptions in CalSim II modeling, beginning at page 23 of the
23 BiOp. The last box in the table, on page 28, provides that:

24 The D-1641 export/inflow (E/I) ratio calculation was largely designed to protect fish
25 from south Delta entrainment. For the PA [proposed action, i.e., California
26 WaterFix], Reclamation and DWR propose that the NDD be excluded from the E/I
ratio calculation. In other words, Sacramento River inflow is defined as flows
downstream of the NDD and only south Delta exports are included for the export
component of the criteria.

27 (USFWS BiOp, p. 28) (Attachment 4) A footnote at the bottom of page 28 directs the reader to
28 "CWF BA Table 3.3-2 for PA Calsim Modeling Assumptions."

1 The July 2016 Biological Assessment ("BA") for the California WaterFix, in turn, provides
2 table 3.3-2 beginning on page 3-90. On page 3-96, in the last box in the table, it provides that:

3 In computing the E-I Ratio in the CALSIM II model, the North Delta Diversion is
4 not included in the export term and the Sacramento River inflow is as modeled
downstream of the North Delta Intakes.

5 (Attachment 5.) It is beyond dispute that DWR proposes to change the E-I ratio to something
6 significantly different than that required by D-1641. DWR could export 9,000 CFS through the
7 NDD and count it as "zero" exports for purposes of the E-I ratio. This is particularly significant as
8 there is no other effective CWF operating constraint on NDD diversions during the summer months.
9 Table 6.1.2 of the USFWS BiOp provides on page 24 that "July, August, September: Minimum
10 flow of 5,000 cfs required in river after diverting at the NDD." This is the bypass flow requirement
11 that serves to restrict how much water may be diverted by the NDD at various times of the year and
12 under various river conditions.

13 With an average summer flow of about 16,000 cfs at the NDD, under the revised E-I criteria
14 DWR could divert over 50% of river flow at the NDD, not run afoul of the E-I limit, and be within
15 the CWF bypass flow requirement of 5,000 cfs. With the E-I limit compliance point as it currently
16 is, at Freeport, and with *all* diversions "counted" in the export term, this massive new diversion
17 capability would be prohibited.

18 Under cross-examination during SWRCB California WaterFix Hearings, DWR Director of
19 Operations John Leahigh admitted that he could point to nothing in CWF operating criteria that
20 would prohibit diverting 9,000 cfs through the NDD with a Sacramento River flow of 19,747 cfs--a
21 flow reduction of 45%. (Delta Alliance WaterFix FEIR/S Comments, July 9, 2017, x.4000019, p.3
22 of comment letter and p.145:5-20 of attachment 2 to comments, SWRCB hearing transcript.)

23 This is a significant change from D-1641, effectively eliminating export limits. California
24 WaterFix is not consistent with Policy ER P1 because it does not comply with D-1641.

25 **V. Question 2 On Supplement page 11 Under DP P2 Directed At Delta Alliance.**

26 The question asks for citations to record evidence to support Delta Alliance's contentions
27 that WaterFix does not respect local land uses and will have severe negative impacts on Delta
28 communities and Delta recreational uses.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

- A. WaterFix Is Not Consistent With Policy DP P2 Because It Does Not Respect The Existing Land Use Of Delta Legacy Communities Clarksburg And Hood.**
- 1. Clarksburg And Hood Will Be Ground Zero In A Construction Impact Catastrophe.**

DWR has chosen to locate the three massive intake structures immediately adjacent to the legacy communities of Hood and Clarksburg. Please refer to SCDA-70, which is attached to SCDA-65, testimony of acoustical engineer Charles Salter and indexed in the record at x.4.000015. A copy of SCDA-70 is attached hereto as attachment 6 for the convenience of the reader. SCDA-70 shows how the town of Hood is dwarfed by construction sites and ripped in half by a geotechnical exploration trench cut right through the middle of homes and businesses in the center of town.

SCDA-71 is also attached to engineer Salter's testimony indexed at x.4.000015 and attached here as attachment 7 as well for convenience. SCDA-71 shows the proximity of intake 2 to the town of Clarksburg, including distances of pile driving at intake 2 to the Clarksburg Library, Clarksburg School Campus, and Clarksburg Marina.

Attachment 1 to Delta Alliance's July 6, 2017, WaterFix FEIR comments, indexed at x.4.00009, is a map showing the six-mile long intense construction zone surrounding Clarksburg and Hood. Heavy construction, including blasting, pile driving, helicopter over-flights, rock drills, and heavy equipment operations will be ongoing, as shown and attached here as attachment 8 for convenience. DWR projects that the construction at the intakes will last six years. (SCDA-83, DWR proposed construction schedule, page 2, attached to testimony of Charles Salter indexed at x.4.000015.) An impact lasting six years is considered permanent under CEQA. DWR's estimates will likely prove optimistic and construction activity will likely last much longer as most large engineering projects go substantially longer than originally projected.

Construction workers and vehicles swamping the area will substantially outnumber town residents over this period of time. A cursory review and a bit of common sense reveal that DWR has made a blunder in locating these massive engineering structures next to two fragile legacy communities. These small modest towns cannot survive this construction onslaught. The WaterFix

1 FEIR admits as much. "Under Alternative 4A":

2 Construction activities associated with BDCP water conveyance facilities would be
3 anticipated to result in changes to the rural qualities of these communities during the
4 construction period (characterized by predominantly agricultural land uses, relatively
5 low population densities, and low levels of associated noise and vehicular traffic),
6 particularly for those communities in proximity to water conveyance structures,
7 including Clarksburg, Hood, and Walnut Grove. Effects associated with construction
8 activities could also result in changes to community cohesion if they were to restrict
9 mobility, reduce opportunities for maintaining face-to-face relationships, or disrupt
10 the functions of community organizations or community gathering places (such as
11 schools, libraries, places of worship and recreational facilities).

12 [N]egative visual-or noise-related effects on residential property could lead to
13 localized abandonment of buildings. While water conveyance construction could
14 result in beneficial effects relating to economic welfare of a community, adverse
15 social effects could also arise as a result of declining economic stability in
16 communities closest to construction effects and in those most heavily influenced by
17 agricultural and recreational activities.

(WaterFix FEIR, p.16-165:2-11; 28-33.)

18 Clarksburg and Hood have *only* recreation and agriculture as the basis for their
19 communities. As shown in the next section of this brief, DWR has substantially understated the
20 amount of noise that the communities of Hood and Clarksburg will be subjected to. Intake
21 construction noise, particularly pile-driving noise, will disrupt the functions of the Clarksburg
22 School Campus, the Clarksburg Library, the Clarksburg Marina, the Clarksburg public fishing
23 access area, and generally make face to face conversation out of doors impossible, and indoors
24 difficult, for five months out of the year, day in and day out, for years on end.

25 **2. Clarksburg And Hood Cannot Survive The Construction Impacts, Including**
26 **Deafening Pile-Driving Noise From Intake Construction.**

27 Construction of WaterFix includes driving 23,900 piles at twelve construction areas spread
28 across the Delta. (SCDA-82, p. 3E-4-3E-5, attached to Salter testimony, indexed at x.4.000015) A
total of 10,909,704 strikes from impact hammers will be required to drive the piles home. (SCDA-
82, p.3E-4-3E-5) The majority of these piles will be driven at the three intake structures located
near Clarksburg, Hood, Locke, and Walnut Grove. Intakes 2, 3, and 5 will each experience 90,000
pile strikes per day during pile driving activities. (SCDA-82, p.3.E-4.) Over an eight hour shift, that
is three strike per second.

1 The WaterFix construction schedule projects that pile driving will occur from June 1 to
2 October 31 for three seasons in a row at the intakes. (SCDA-83, p.1). This is likely overly-
3 optimistic and pile driving may take much longer. It is reasonably foreseeable that pile driving will
4 occur every season for six seasons, rather than three.

5 Acoustical engineer Charles Salter performed an acoustical analysis to determine the sound
6 levels that would be generated by pile driving at the intakes. Salter's analysis was far more thorough
7 than that included in the WaterFix EIR. The WaterFix EIR simply took a general rule-of-thumb
8 estimate for pile driving noise, without any regard to the size of the piles or other factors specific to
9 the WaterFix pile driving. Salter, on the other hand, "performed an analysis based on the pile size,
10 pile type, energy delivered from the impact hammer and record data available from measurements
11 of noise generated by similar pile-driving in the past." (SCDA-65, p.3:19–21.) When confronted
12 with Salter's superior analysis, DWR declined to dispute it.

13 Salter calculated that a conservative estimate of the sound levels generated by each of the
14 millions of pile strikes on WaterFix's 48" diameter steel foundation piles, will be 115dBA at a
15 distance of 50 feet from the noise source. (SCDA-65:21–22.) "115 dBA is very loud, roughly
16 equivalent to the sound produced by a siren on an emergency vehicle. The United States
17 Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,
18 promulgated a recommended standard of 28 seconds as the maximum safe amount of time that a
19 worker should be exposed to sounds as loud as 115 dBA." (SCDA-65, p.3:22–25; p.4:1; *see also*
20 WaterFix FEIR p.23-3 [115 dBA louder than an automobile horn at 3 feet].)

21 Salter calculated that the noise levels would reach 80dBA at the Town of Hood. The FEIR
22 compares 80 dBA to the sound of a pneumatic hammer at 50 feet, and, in an understatement,
23 classifies this level of noise as "annoying." (WaterFix FEIR, p.23-3.) Salter calculates that noise
24 levels will reach 75 dBA at the Clarksburg Marina, 79 dBA at the edge of the Town of Clarksburg,
25 76 dBA in the center of Clarksburg, and 76 dBA at the Clarksburg Library and School Campus.
26 (SCDA-65, p.2:12–16.) Salter characterized the impacts of these levels of construction noise as
27 follows:

28 Because of the intruding construction and pile driving noise is of a different
character from ambient noise in these quiet rural locations and because the intruding

1 noise is impulsive, it will have an annoyance factor even greater than the extreme
2 increase over ambient noise levels would indicate. The construction noise and pile
3 driving noise will significantly interfere with some recreational activities, and will
4 substantially deter use of the Clarksburg Marina. It will interfere considerably with
5 speech communication in the communities of Hood and Clarksburg, requiring people
6 to raise their voices. Interference with such a basic activity as speech is likely to have
7 a significant negative impact on the communities, making them unattractive places to
8 live and visit.

9 (SCDA-65, p.2:17-25.)

10 Although the WaterFix FEIR substantially understates the level of construction noise, the
11 FEIR concludes that intake construction noise will constitute a significant and unavoidable adverse
12 environmental impact. (FEIR, Figure 23-0.) In reality, the construction noise combined with the
13 general overall devastation brought by the overwhelming scale of the construction will cause large-
14 scale abandonment of Hood and Clarksburg.

15 Intake Construction impacts on Clarksburg are further evidenced by a July 6, 2017, letter
16 from Don and Kathleen Updegraff, owners of the Clarksburg Marina, submitted as a comment on
17 the WaterFix FEIR and included in the record--attached here as Attachment 9¹. "Don's father, Don
18 Sr., built the marina in the 1960's," and the Marina is a family operation. (Attachment 9, p.2.). The
19 letter continues:

20 At Clarksburg Marina, we pride ourselves on the relaxing and wonderful experience
21 the Delta offers. The area offers fantastic fishing opportunities, gorgeous river vistas,
22 fabulous recreational boating as well as local merchants and wine tasting. These
23 amenities can only exist if the Delta remains a peaceful and serene location, but
24 construction of the tunnels will turn the Delta, and in particular the six mile long
25 intake construction zone, into a war zone. This six mile long stretch of river contains
26 several well-established recreational facilities which will all experience permanent
27 loss due to construction. Our customers fish off of our dock and we know the
28 fisherman who use this area well. They will desert this entire 6 mile stretch of river.
29 Nine or more years of construction at the intakes is permanent, and it is likely none
30 of the businesses will return even after construction is complete because the whole
31 area will be an industrial zone due to the intakes.

32 (Attachment 9 hereto, p.2.) The Updegraffs conclude that noise from WaterFix construction will
33 "drive all our customers away and put us out of business." (*Id.*)

34 Further evidence of intake construction impacts on Clarksburg and Hood is provided by 26

35 ¹ This letter and its attachments are part of the record before DWR. It was submitted as a comment on the WaterFix
36 Final FEIR after the close of the Federal Register Notice Period. DWR considered it and provided a response in its final
37 response to comments. However, DWR included only a reproduction of the text of the letter in Table 3-3 of the FEIR
38 and did not reproduce the original letter or its attachments. The letter and attachments are provided here in full.

1 year Clarksburg resident Barbara Daly. Ms. Daly's July 10, 2017, letter was submitted as a comment
2 on the WaterFix FEIR, is included in the record, and is attached here as attachment 10². Ms. Daly
3 comments:

4
5 These are small towns and people here do not have a lot of money and there is not a
6 lot of opportunity to make money here. Our communities are held together by sense
7 of place and home. We gather in public, at the library, at church, and in each others'
8 homes. We stay here because it is quiet and peaceful and the outside world doesn't
9 much intrude.

10 ***

11 People will not want to come here to boat and fish in the middle of what will feel like a war
12 zone.

13 ***

14 Hood will likely be abandoned entirely to become a ghost town. There will be large
15 scale abandonment in Clarksburg. The historical integrity of Locke and Walnut
16 Grove, situated within their historical vernacular landscape, will be lost forever.

17 ***

18 It seems as though those who prepared the FEIR/S have a cavalier attitude and will
19 say just about anything, shooting from the hip without knowledge or expertise. The
20 proposed "mitigation measure" of putting up a viewing platform and using the
21 construction as a tourist attraction is insulting and demeaning to our community. It is
22 as if you are thumbing your nose at us and perhaps intentionally causing us grief for
23 your amusement. Please show some respect and remove that from the document.

24 Really, to show respect, and obey the law, you must go back to the drawing board
25 and consider the devastating impacts on our communities so you can place the tunnel
26 intakes somewhere else.

27 (Attachment 10 hereto, p.2, 3.) In addition to being a long-time Clarksburg resident, Ms. Daly runs
28 a Delta tour business, and, unlike ICF personnel who prepared the WaterFix FEIR, Ms. Daly is an
expert on Delta communities and Delta recreation.

Further evidence of construction impacts on Delta legacy communities Clarksburg, Hood,
Locke, and Walnut Grove is provided by Traffic Engineer Chris Kinzel's SWRCB sworn Part 2
testimony documenting traffic impacts resulting from the decision to cite the WaterFix intakes

² This letter and its attachments are part of the record before DWR. It was submitted as a comment on the WaterFix Final FEIR after the close of the Federal Register Notice Period. DWR considered it and provided a response in its final response to comments. However, DWR included only a reproduction of the text of the letter in Table 3-3 of the FEIR and did not reproduce the original letter or its attachments. The letter and attachments are provided here in full.

1 adjacent to legacy communities. (SCDA-100, x.000024, pp.5-7.)

2 WaterFix is not consistent with Delta Plan Policy DP P2 because it does not respect the
3 existing land use of the Delta Legacy Communities of Clarksburg and Hood.

4 **B. WaterFix Is Not Consistent With Policy DP P2 Because It Does Not Respect The**
5 **Delta-Wide Land Use Of Recreation.**

6 Chapter 15 of the WaterFix FEIR concludes that impacts on recreation in the Delta will be
7 significant and unavoidable. (WaterFix FEIR, Figure 15-0.) Impacts on recreation are substantially
8 understated in the narrative portion of the FEIR, however significant adverse impacts on existing
9 land uses under Alternative 4A are described at Bullfrog Marina, Wimpy's Marina, the Clarksburg
10 Boat Launch and Fishing Access Area, the Lazy M Marina, the Delta Meadows Park and anchorage
11 area, the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, and the Cosumnes River Preserve. (WaterFix
12 FEIR, pp.15-468-469.) "[T]hese impacts are considered significant and unavoidable." (WaterFix
13 FEIR, p. 15-469:36-37.)

14 The WaterFix FEIR concludes that because construction activity will be so long lasting and
15 widespread throughout the Delta, "a decline in visits to Delta recreational sites as a result of facility
16 construction would be expected to reduce recreation-related spending, creating an adverse effect
17 throughout the Delta region." (WaterFix FEIR, p.16-167:11-13.) The WaterFix FEIR concludes
18 that "Overall, the multi-year schedule and geographic scale of construction activities and the
19 anticipated decline in recreational spending would be considered an adverse effect." (WaterFix
20 FEIR, p.1-168:6-7.) Because of this adverse effect "recreation-dependent businesses including
21 marinas and recreational supply retailers may not be able to economically weather the effects of
22 multiyear construction activities and may be forced to close as a result... ." (WaterFix FEIR, p,16-
23 168:3-4.)

24 An examples of adjacent WaterFix construction activity putting marinas out of business is
25 provided by the letter from Don and Kathleen Updegraff cited above and documenting the ruinous

26 _____
27 ^o This quote is from the section discussing Alternative 4. The text in the section discussing Alternative 4A states that
28 socio-economic impacts for Alternative 4A will be identical to those for Alternative 4. Where sections of the FEIR are
quoted in this brief for Alternatives other than 4A, the FEIR has referenced that those sections are applicable to
Alternative 4A.

1 effects of construction on their family-run Clarksburg Marina. (Attachment 9 hereto, pp. 1–3 &
2 attachment 1 to the letter.) A July 7, 2017, WaterFix FEIR comment letter from Carl Wenske,
3 Manager of Bullfrog Marina, provides further evidence of WaterFix putting marinas out of
4 business:

5 Bullfrog Marina is located on Middle River at Railroad Slough and it will be within
6 the construction zone once construction begins. FEIR/S figure M15-4, sheet 5 of 8.
7 Bullfrog Marina will face river passage blockage due to the mid-river geological
8 exploration zone located adjacent to the marina on middle river, continuous noise,
9 heave barge traffic and congestion from anchored barges on Middle River and
10 adjacent slough--which will result in river closures and extensive areas of 5 mph
11 zones, effects of blasting, truck traffic, and visual disturbance. Or Marina will not be
12 able to survive the lengthy construction and we will have to close our business.

13 (Attachment 11 hereto, p.1⁴.) Attachment 1 to Mr. Wenske's letter provides a pictorial representation
14 of the proximity of construction activities and their impact on the marina.

15 A July 10, 2017, WaterFix FEIR comment letter from Captain Frank Morgan concludes that
16 "construction impacts of California WaterFix will destroy the Delta as we know it, and the Delta
17 will never recover... Many Delta commercial recreational facilities will be put out of business and
18 informal recreational facilities will also be lost forever." (Attachment 12 hereto, p.3⁵.) Captain
19 Morgan runs a recreational charter business in the Delta and, unlike ICF personnel who prepared
20 the WaterFix FEIR, is qualified as an expert on Delta recreation. Captain Morgan concludes "The
21 Clarksburg Marina, for sure, will be driven into bankruptcy by this project." (Attachment 12 hereto,
22 p.4.) Likewise, Captain Morgan concludes that "Bullfrog Marina, in the heart of the most intense
23 construction activity, will be put out of business by this construction." (*Id.*)

24 Attachment 2 to Captain Morgan's letter provides a map showing construction impacts
25 adjacent to Bullfrog Marina and in the vicinity of Discovery Bay. Captain Morgan's letter also
26

27 ⁴ This letter and its attachments are part of the record before DWR. It was submitted as a comment on the WaterFix
28 Final FEIR after the close of the Federal Register Notice Period. DWR considered it and provided a response in its final
response to comments. However, DWR included only a reproduction of the text of the letter in Table 3-3 of the FEIR
and did not reproduce the original letter or its attachments. The letter and attachments are provided here in full.

⁵ This letter and its attachments are part of the record before DWR. It was submitted as a comment on the WaterFix
Final FEIR after the close of the Federal Register Notice Period. DWR considered it and provided a response in its final
response to comments. However, DWR included only a reproduction of the text of the letter in Table 3-3 of the FEIR
and did not reproduce the original letter or its attachments. The letter and attachments are provided here in full.

1 documents the significant adverse impacts of the Clarksburg / Hood six mile long construction zone
2 at page 4 of his letter, documents the substantial adverse impacts on Bullfrog Marina at pages 4–5,
3 and documents the substantial adverse impacts on the Meadows Slough at pages 5–6. Attachments 6
4 to Captain Morgan's letter provides an annotated Google Earth view of impacts on the Meadows
5 Slough and Attachment 7 provides photographs of peaceful Upper Snodgrass Slough and the
6 Meadows Slough that will be destroyed by WaterFix construction activity.

7 Barbara Daly's comment letter also documents incompatibility of WaterFix construction
8 with recreational land uses: "I can tell you for sure that the Clarksburg Marina cannot survive the
9 onslaught of noise and industrial activity disrupting this peaceful stretch of river;" "The picnic area
10 and you-pick-your-own-fruit recreational facilities at R. Kelly [farms] will be abandoned. Scribner
11 Bend Vineyards is located at 9051 River Road, again at ground zero *inside* the massive 6 mile long
12 construction zone. The Vineyards has regular wine-tasting and is a wedding party venue. These
13 facilities will be lost." (Attachment 10, p. 3.)

14 After summarizing the effects of WaterFix, Delta Chamber of Commerce Executive
15 Director Bill Wells that at least 20% of Delta marinas will be forced out of business by WaterFix in
16 his Part 2 case in chief sworn testimony in WaterFix hearings before the SWRCB:

17 To us here in the Delta, California WaterFix is massive amounts of barge traffic (at
18 least 9400 barge trips), massive amounts of pile driving (over 23,000 piles with over
19 10,000,000 strikes from giant pile driving rigs), massive amounts of traffic on two
20 lane Delta roadways (1,000% increases in car trips on formerly lonely roads),
21 massive influxes of construction workers, massive amounts of tunnel muck dumped
22 on Delta islands (30,000,000 cubic yards), and a commensurate massive negative
23 impact on Delta recreation and those of us who make our living on the recreation
24 industry in the Delta. The impacts are massive and occur all throughout the Delta.
25 (SCDA-72.)

26 These massive impacts are not disputed: "The multi-year schedule and geographic
27 scale of project-related construction activities and the anticipated incremental decline
28 in recreational spending would be cumulatively considerable." (FEIR, p. 16-343.)
Nor is it disputed that many of us here in the Delta will not survive the WaterFix
economically: "recreation-dependent businesses including marinas and recreational
supply retailers may not be able to economically weather the effects of multiyear
construction activities and may be forced to close as a result"(FEIR, p.16-343.) In
my opinion, 15% to 20% of our Delta marinas will be forced out of business by
WaterFix. I do not think DWR will disagree with this estimate. But DWR has done
nothing to protect Delta recreation.

Authenticate footnote same as Slater

1 (SCDA-150, p.1:15–28; p.2:1–2, indexed at x.4.000014.) Unlike ICF personnel who prepared the
2 WaterFix FEIR, Commodore Wells is an expert in Delta recreation.

3 Commodore Wells Part 2 case in chief testimony also documents significant adverse
4 impacts to Delta Legacy communities and Delta Boating (SCDA-150, pp. 3–5) and details how
5 WaterFix will shutter 20% or more of Delta marinas (SCDA-150, pp. 5–7).

6 The substantial abandonment of the Delta by boaters due to WaterFix construction impacts
7 is established by the Delta Alliance Boaters Survey conducted at the 2017 Rio Vista Bass Derby
8 and Festival. The survey and its results are described in the SWRCB WaterFix Part 2 Rebuttal
9 testimony of Michael Brodsky:

10 "The survey was conducted at the Rio Vista Bass Derby on October 14 and October 15,
11 2017. The Rio Vista Bass Derby is an annual event that draws thousands of Delta boaters to a fair
12 held on the Streets of Rio Vista, California.

13 "The surveys were administered to Delta boaters attending the fair by 15 survey takers over
14 the two days. 220 surveys were obtained over that period. 220 surveys is an adequate sample to
15 provide valid representative results of the opinions of Delta boaters as a whole. All of the
16 individuals who completed the surveys were boaters who use the Delta for their recreational
17 boating. The survey takers did not reveal who was sponsoring the survey or if they were for or
18 against the tunnel project. The survey takers were instructed not to, and did not, attempt to influence
19 the responses. I did not conduct any of the surveys or make myself visible to respondents as the
20 surveys were being taken to avoid recognition and any implicit influence on respondents. The
21 language of the survey is designed to be objective and not to sway respondents one way or the
22 other. The multiple choice questions included answers that respondents could choose that would
23 indicate that they were not bothered by CWF construction and that they would not change their
24 boating habits in response to CWF. The description of the project that was given to respondents
25 was read directly from the survey forms, including language quoted directly from CWF proponent's
26 description of Project impacts in the EIR. The graphic depiction of the project shown to respondents
27 was that found at SCDA-72.

28

1 "The raw survey sheets, with responses, are submitted as SCDA-352-1–SCDA-352-5. Due
2 to file size and scanning issues the 220 surveys are provided in five pdf files. SCDA-352-1–SCDA-
3 352-5 are true and correct copies of the survey forms and responses that were administered at the
4 Rio Vista Bass Derby on October 14 and 15, 2017.

5 "Pertinent Questions and results are as follows:

6 14. Once the tunnel construction project begins, which of the following best describes the likely
7 change in the frequency of your boating activity in the Delta overall in response to the construction
described above?

- 8 A. No change in frequency of boating activity in the Delta overall
- 9 B. Some reduction in frequency of boating activity in the Delta overall
- 10 C. Significant reduction in frequency of boating activity in the Delta overall
- 11 D. Increase in frequency of boating activity in the Delta overall.
- 12 E. I will stop boating in the Delta altogether.

13 "Forty-four percent of respondents answered C, a significant reduction in their use of the
14 Delta, twenty-one percent answered B, some reduction in their use of the Delta, and twenty-two
15 percent answered E, that they would stop boating in the Delta altogether, for a total of eighty-seven
16 percent of respondents who said they would reduce, or stop altogether, their use of the Delta for
17 recreational boating in response to CWF construction activities.

18 15. Once tunnel construction begins, which of the following best describes the likely change in the
19 location of your boating activity?

- 20 A. No change in location of my boating activity.
- 21 B. I would change the location of my boating within the Delta to avoid construction activity but
22 would not switch to boat at locations other than the Delta.
- 23 C. I would occasionally avoid the Delta by switching to boat at locations other than the Delta.
- 24 D. I would often avoid the Delta by switching to boat at locations other than the Delta.
- 25 E. I would always avoid the Delta by switching to boat at locations other than the Delta.

26 "Twenty-six percent of respondents answered E, that they would always avoid the Delta by
27 switching their boating to locations other than the Delta once tunnel construction began. Twenty-
28 four percent answered D, that they would often avoid the Delta by switching their boating to
locations other than the Delta once tunnel construction began. Eighteen percent answered C, that
they would occasionally switch their boating to locations other than the Delta once tunnel
construction began. This represents a total of 68% of respondents who said they would switch some

1 or all of their boating activity away from the Delta in response to CWF construction activities. The
2 answers to questions 14 and 15 are consistent with each other.

3 "After answering questions 14 and 15, respondents were informed of DWR's promises to
4 implement a barge operations plan and use their best efforts thereby to reduce or avoid barge
5 impacts on recreation. Question 17 was designed to measure boater's confidence in DWR's promise
6 to avoid impacts through a barge operations plan.

7 17. Which of the following best describes your reaction to DWR's intention to implement a barge
8 operations plan?

- 9 A. I have no reaction one way or the other.
- 10 B. I am somewhat confident that DWR will make a good faith effort to reduce muddy water and general
11 impacts to recreation.
- 12 C. I am very confident that DWR will make a good faith effort to reduce muddy water and general
13 impacts to recreation.
- 14 D. I somewhat confident that DWR will not make a good faith effort to reduce muddy water and general
15 impacts to recreation.
- 16 E. I am very confident that DWR will not make a good faith effort to reduce muddy water and general
17 impacts to recreation.

18 "Seventy-six percent answered E, that they were very confident that DWR would not make a good
19 faith effort to reduce impacts to recreation. Fourteen percent answered D, that they were somewhat confident
20 that DWR would not make a good faith effort to reduce impacts to recreation, for a total of ninety percent of
21 respondents who somewhat or very much lacked confidence in DWR's good faith.

22 "After answering questions 17, boaters were given additional information about construction
23 impacts taken directly from Project Proponent's EIR--specifically with regard to impacts on traffic
24 on Delta roadways including Highway 12. Boaters were also given information about draw bridge
25 openings that would be required if barges are to be used to supply construction activities. Boaters
26 were then asked question 18, which asks specifically about their likely response to CWF
27 construction impacts on road traffic in the Delta.

28 18. Which of the following best describes your response to construction vehicles using Delta
roadways and bridge openings for barge traffic?

- A. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will not affect my use of the Delta for recreation.
- B. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will cause me to use the Delta for recreation
somewhat more often.
- C. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will cause me to use the Delta for recreation
much more often.

- 1 D. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will cause me to use the Delta for recreation
somewhat less often.
2 E. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will cause me to use the Delta for recreation
much less often.
3 F. Construction vehicles and bridge openings will cause me to stop using the Delta for
recreation altogether.
4

5 Forty-seven percent answered E, that construction vehicles and bridge openings would cause
6 them to use the Delta for recreation much less often. Twenty-nine percent answered F, that
7 construction vehicles and bridge openings would cause them to stop using the Delta for recreation
8 altogether, for a total of seventy-six percent who would use the Delta much less often or stop using
9 the Delta for recreation entirely in response to impacts from CWF on road traffic in the Delta."
10 (SCDA-351, x.4.000017, pp.1-4.)

11 The results of the survey are consistent, that substantial majority of those surveyed would
12 significantly reduce, or stop altogether, their use of the Delta for recreation in response to WaterFix.
13 It is inevitable that the FEIR prediction that "recreation-dependent businesses including marinas and
14 recreational supply retailers may not be able to economically weather the effects of multiyear
15 construction activities and may be forced to close as a result," will be born out. (WaterFix FEIR,
16 p.16-168:3-4.) At least 20% of Delta marinas and other recreation-related businesses will be forced
17 to close and likely the number will be much higher.

18 The testimony of traffic engineer Chris Kinzel establishes that substantial WaterFix traffic
19 impacts on Delta recreational facilities are due to poor decisions as to the siting of WaterFix
20 facilities:

21 The decision of California WaterFix Project planners to locate a 15,000,000 cubic
22 yard dump and major construction staging area on Bouldin Island, off of State Route
23 12, combined with Project planners' major engineering error in mistaking the bridge
24 clearance for the Highway 12 bridge over the Sacramento River, will cause
25 substantial undisclosed traffic impacts on Highway 12 between Rio Vista and
26 Interstate 5. An increase of 41% in traffic crossing the Rio Vista Bridge, combined
27 with frequent openings of the Rio Vista Bridge and Mokelumne River Bridge, will
28 back up traffic on SR 12 so severely that this major recreational gateway to the Delta
will become untenable for many recreational users. Many recreational users will
likely abandon the Delta as a recreational destination due to hours of traffic delay
that will ensue during the eleven year construction period of California WaterFix. In
light of its errors and the severe impacts, DWR should relocate the Bouldin Island
Muck dump to another location where it will not cause such severe traffic impacts.

Traffic impacts on the small communities of Hood, Clarksburg, Walnut Grove,
Locke, and the rural surrounding countryside are unreasonable and location of a
large industrial construction zone in this designated Delta legacy region was a poor

1 planning decision. If feasible alternatives to the WaterFix Project exist, the impacts
2 on quiet country towns and Delta recreation are reason enough not to build the
3 WaterFix Project.

4 (SCDA-100, x.4.000024, p.1:4–20.)

5 **C. WaterFix Is Not Consistent With DP P2 Because Of The Proposed Decision To**
6 **Site The Bouldin Island Muck Dump Directly Adjacent To The Tower Park**
7 **Resort.**

8 It is unclear how the pending changes to the California WaterFix described in the WaterFix
9 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report will be addressed by the Council. One of those
10 proposed changes is to move the Bouldin Island Muck Dump to within a few hundred feet of the
11 Tower Park Resort. The impacts of that proposed change are described by Commodore Bill Wells:

12 "The configuration of the Bouldin Island muck dump has been changed by the Project
13 changes included in the ADSEIR. The muck dump previously extended to within approximate one
14 mile of the Tower Park Resort. Please see FEIR Map Book figure M15-4, sheet 4, for the extent of
15 the Bouldin Island muck dump relative to the Tower Park Resort in the Approved Project. Please
16 see ADSEIR Map Book M15-4, sheet 3, for the extent of the muck dump relative to the Tower Park
17 Resort in the Proposed Project. Please notice that the muck dump has been shifted to the north so
18 that it now extends to directly across the slough from the resort, within a few hundred feet of the
19 resort.

20 "The ADSEIR states that the changes to the Bouldin Island muck dump will not adversely
21 impact the Tower Park Resort because, in part, the dump "would not be within the direct view of the
22 Resort," and "the views from the resort are not expected to change because the Bouldin Island
23 levees would block the views of RTM [tunnel muck] storage." (ADSEIR, p.15-3:32–33; 37–38.)
24 These statements are incorrect.

25 "The Tower Park resort is elevated above the levee and sits higher than the Bouldin Island
26 Levee. There is a direct view from the Tower Park Resort over the Bouldin Island levee onto
27 Bouldin Island and the entire muck dump will be visible. SCDA-317⁷ is a photograph taken on
28

⁷ SCDA-317 is a true and correct copy of a photograph accurately depicting Tower Park Resort,

1 Potato Slough approaching the Tower Park Resort and Terminous Bridge. On the left, is the
2 Bouldin Island Levee referenced in the ADSEIR. On the right is the Tower Park Resort. While the
3 gas dock and other docks sit at an elevation below the levee, the resort itself, including deck area,
4 restaurant, ice cream parlor, store, and other facilities sit on the elevated deck at an elevation above
5 the levee. There is a clear line of sight from the resort deck over the Bouldin Island Levee and down
6 onto Bouldin Island. I visit this resort regularly and enjoy dining in the restaurant while taking in
7 the view across the slough, over the levee, and onto the Delta landscape of Bouldin Island.

8 "SCDA-318 is a photograph of the resort deck area, with ice cream parlor on the right and
9 store, restaurant, and bar on the left. SCDA-319 is a photograph of the Tower Park Grille. Notice
10 the diner seated at the outside dining area taking in the view of Bouldin Island across the slough.
11 SCDA-320–323⁸ are photographs taken from the Tower Park deck area, looking across Potato
12 Slough and down onto Bouldin Island over the top of the Bouldin Island Levee.

13 "Locating a massive muck dump within plain view and only a few hundred feet from a
14 major resort facility is not reasonably protective of recreation. SCDA-327⁹ is a google earth shot
15 showing the locations of the resort and muck dump.

16 "SCDA-324 and SCDA-325¹⁰ are photographs of children playing at the Tower Park beach.
17 The muck dump is directly across the slough, within 350 feet of this beach. The prevailing winds
18 are from the west, and will blow the stench and contamination from the muck dump onto this beach.
19 When the muck dries out and turns to dust, potentially toxic dust particles will blanket this beach.
20 SCDA-328¹¹ is a Google Earth shot showing the location and proximity of the muck dump and
21 children's beach. It was patently unreasonable for DWR to move the location of this muck dump to
22 within a few hundred feet of a children's play area and this change endangers the health and safety

23
24
25 ⁸ SCDA-318–323 are true, correct, and accurate copies of photographs taken from the Tower Park
26 Marina in July 2018.

27 ⁹ SCDA-327 is a true and correct copy of a Google Earth image of the Tower Park Resort and
28 accurate representation.

¹⁰ SCDA-324 and 325 are true and correct copies of photographs accurately depicting the Tower
Park beach taken in July 2018.

¹¹ SCDA-328 is a true and correct copy of a Google Earth image of the Tower Park Resort and
accurate depiction.

1 of children. I do not believe that locating this dump on top of a children's play area could possibly
2 comply with applicable state and federal health and safety laws and regulations.

3 "Highway 12 is a major gateway to the Delta used by many Delta boaters to access the
4 Delta. Many boaters trailer their boats into the Delta for the weekend via highway 12 arriving on
5 Friday and staying through the weekend. Many other trailer boaters access the Delta via highway 12
6 during the week in the summer season.

7 The increase in activity at the Bouldin Island facility brought by changes in the Proposed
8 Project will increase truck traffic to and from the facility on Highway 12 above that previously
9 contemplated in the Approved Project. This will worsen traffic impacts on Highway 12." (SCDA-
10 308, x.4.000012, pp. 5-7.)

11 **D. Further Impacts On Delta Recreation Due To DWR's Poor Decision To Site Its**
12 **Largest Muck Dump In The Heart Of Delta Recreation: Impacts On The**
Bedrooms Anchorage.

13 Further impacts on recreation by DWR's poor decision to site its largest muck dump in the
14 center of prime Delta recreation and site a Barge landing in the midst of the well-established Potato
15 Slough "Bedrooms" anchorage are also established by Commodore Wells testimony:

16 "The reader is asked to kindly turn to ADSEIR Map Book M15-4, sheet 3 of 6. The Bouldin
17 Island facility and muck dump are shown as the hatched area near the middle of the page. Just
18 beneath the left side of the hatched area, one finds the legend "Barge Unloading Facility." The
19 waterway underneath that legend is Potato Slough. One can observe a series of coves directly across
20 the slough from the arrow pointing to the barge dock. These coves are the anchorages known to
21 locals as "the bedrooms." The map lacks detail and there are small islands interspersed throughout
22 this area that are not shown on the map. Some of the bedrooms boast docks and makeshift
23 improvements on the adjacent islands, such as barbeques, makeshift cabins, and shaded lounging
24 areas. Exhibits SCDA-309-SCDA-316 are photographs of boats at anchor in the bedrooms taken on
25 a recent afternoon¹². SCDA-326¹³ is a google earth shot showing that the proposed barge dock is
26 within a few hundred feet of bedrooms anchorages.

27
28

¹² SCDA-309-316 are true and accurate copies of photographs of the bedrooms taken in July 2018.

1 "Hall Schell described the Potato Slough anchorages shown in the photographs in his classic
2 work on the Delta as follows:

3 Potato ("Big") Slough is a beautiful broad stretch of
4 water with a string of lovely islands along much of its
5 center. It thus provides two distinct cruising routes for
6 the skipper on the move, as well as some nice exploring
7 waters for one who wishes to poke around the
8 islands. Toward the western end of the slough is a
9 good-sized island called Fig Island, although it is not
10 so marked on the charts. Fig has a gentle curl to its
11 eastern side and all summer long there is a good-sized
12 fleet at anchor here.

13 It generally harbors a number of large sailing craft.
14 And the anchorage is a favorite of Bay Area skippers
15 who slip in off the channel and enjoy its deep water
16 and amiable setting. It is isolated, yet handy for a
17 quick runabout hop to Moore's Riverboat, Spindrift or
18 other favorite spots on the channel or this end of the
19 Mokelumne. The island also has a private cabin and
20 landing owned by a grizzled Stockton skipper called
21 "Balky". Balky complains long and loudly about
22 trespassing on both his dock and his property . Of
23 course, it only takes a single bad apple to mess up the
24 barrel. Yet it is surprising that with so many places to
25 go, boatmen will still trespass on posted property.
26 But the vibes in this anchorage are primarily good
27 ones. Groups get together in little raftups. Dinghies
28 are constantly on the move and there is a lot of swimming
and lazing around on air mattresses . When the
wind comes in strong, it is here that you see daring
youngsters dangling from lines off flapping spinnakers
They put on a pretty good show for all in the
anchorage .

Farther in on the slough there are other clusters of
islands that see near -equal anchorage activity . And
there are skippers who leave their boats here all sum mer.
Fishing is surprisingly good in this slough also. I
once made a run through here in the company of Jay
Sorenson, a fisherman of great skill. Although we were
not fishing , Jay stopped, baited a hook and dropped a
line in a certain spot. " That 's my fishing hole, " he said.
" Whenever I'm on my way in, I always stop here and
give that hole a couple minutes . You 'd be surprised

28 ¹³ SCDA-326 is an accurate depiction of the location of the barge dock and bedrooms anchorages
and true and correct copy of Google Earth image.

1 how many big stripers I've pulled out of there ."
2 He did not get one this day.

3 (SCDA-152, pp. 92–93.) These Delta treasures are a few hundred yards from the barge facility.

4 "DWR proposes to turn this stretch of Potato Slough into an industrial scale barge landing.
5 This is patently unreasonable. This is not an industrial area and siting this industrial scale barge
6 landing and industrial facility here, where barges will be clogging the slough awaiting unloading
7 and barge traffic will be incessant, speaks to a complete lack of understanding or concern on the
8 part of DWR for the consequences of their actions.

9 SCDA-72 contains a picture of a tug boat and barge representative of the tugs and barges
10 that will clog Potato Slough. This type of activity does not belong in this place. Locating it here is
11 not reasonably protective of recreation." (SCDA-308, x.4.000012, pp.4–5.)

12
13 **E. Virtually All Of The Impacts On Delta Land Uses, Including Impacts On**
14 **Marinas And Other Delta Recreational Land Uses Are Due To DWR's Poor**
15 **Decisions When Siting WaterFix Water Facilities.**

16 **1. Poor Decision In Siting The Intakes At Legacy Communities.**

17 DWR chose to locate the WaterFix intakes adjacent to the legacy communities of Hood and
18 Clarksburg when there is no hydrodynamic or engineering reason why these facilities could not
19 have been located elsewhere on the Sacramento River, away from these sensitive communities. The
20 construction impacts, which are of long enough duration to be considered permanent impacts under
21 California law, could have all been avoided by siting the intakes elsewhere. DWR chose the worse
22 place possible to put these intakes from the perspective of respecting local land uses.

23 We have established the massive impacts of intake construction on adjacent land uses in
24 Clarksburg and Hood. These are permanent impacts and fall within the purview of DP P2.

25 Siting the intakes at this location also violates DP P2 because of the impacts after
26 construction is complete. The very qualities for which Clarksburg and Hood were designated Delta
27 legacy communities will be severely eroded by the presence of massive WaterFix engineering
28 structures on their doorsteps (in the unlikely event that any part of the towns survive construction).

1 While the WaterFix FEIR drastically understates the impacts, it recognizes these impacts after
2 construction, "during operations and maintenance":

3 Agricultural contributions to the character and culture of the Delta would be likely to
4 decline commensurate with the projected decline in agricultural-related employment
5 and production. This could result in the closure of agriculture-dependent businesses
6 or those catering to agricultural employees, particularly in areas where conversion of
7 agricultural land would be most concentrated, including near the intakes in the
8 vicinity of Hood and Clarksburg

9 [T]he visual appearance of intakes and other permanent features would compromise
10 the predominantly undeveloped and agricultural nature of communities like
11 Clarksburg, Courtland, and Hood, which would be located closest to the permanent
12 water conveyance features. Lasting effects on areas made less desirable which to
13 live, work, shop, or participate in recreational activities as a result of BDCP
14 operations could lead to localized abandonment of buildings. Such lasting effects
15 could also result in changes to community cohesion ... adverse social effects could
16 linger in communities closest to the character-changing effects and in those most
17 heavily influenced by agricultural and recreational activities.

18 (WaterFix FEIR, p.16-173:15-19; 29-40.)

19 **2. Poor Decision When Siting The Tunnel Route Through The Heart Of The Delta.**

20 Almost all of the impacts on recreation are due to DWR's poor decision to select a tunnel
21 route through the heart of the Delta. Many of the substantial impacts on Delta recreation are due to
22 the need to run thousands of large barges and tugboats in the Delta in prime boating season because
23 the tunnel route runs through Delta islands not accessible by road. The location of large tunnel
24 muck dumps on Delta islands is also caused by the route through the center of the Delta. If the
25 tunnel route were to skirt the eastern edge of the Delta, most of these impacts would be avoided.

26 DWR considered an eastern alignment for a canal, and determined that there was feasible
27 eastern alignment right of way. (FEIR, Figure 3-4.) However, part of the reason to select a tunnel,
28 rather than a canal, was that a tunnel could be run through the center of the Delta, tracing a more
direct route from Hood to Tracy. This may have saved some money in direct construction costs, but
the costs to the Delta and its residents is unacceptable. DWR appears blind to the costs of this
project that it is foisting on others. Economists call these kind of costs "negative externalities." One
justification for government regulation, is to force actors to internalize the negative externalities
they would otherwise create. Here, there is a simple solution that forces water suppliers to bear the
true costs of tunnel construction impacts: route the tunnels around the eastern edge of the Delta,

1 albeit a bit longer route with more construction costs, but one that places the true costs of the project
2 on those who will reap the benefits: the water suppliers.

3 Captain Morgan described the need for an eastern alignment:

4 Mr. Rischbieter [DWR's expert] testified that impacts from barge operations on
5 recreational boating "would be significant and unavoidable during construction."
6 (DWR-1024, p.7:5-7.) I disagree with Mr. Rischbieter's statement that impacts from
7 barge operations are unavoidable. If a tunnel or tunnels are to be built, the tunnels
8 can feasibly be routed around the eastern edge of the Delta along the route shown on
9 FEIR Figure 3-4. (submitted as SCDA-305¹⁴.) This would facilitate moving muck
10 dumps, staging areas, and access shafts away from Delta waterways, eliminating
11 barge traffic on Delta waterways to service these construction elements and avoiding
12 the impacts to Delta recreational boating. This would avoid running the construction
13 area through the heart of the Delta on the current alignment as shown on FEIR
14 Figure 3-9 (submitted as SCDA-306¹⁵.) Access shafts, staging areas, and muck dumps
15 could be accessed by trucks from Highway 5, which has the capacity to handle large
16 amounts of heavy truck traffic. Contrary to the testimony of Mr. Rischbieter, impacts
17 from barge operations are avoidable.

18 (SCDA-301, x.4.000013, p.3:27-28, p.4:1-10.)

19 **F. The Foregoing Also Establishes That CWF Is, On The Whole, Not Consistent
20 With Achieving The Coequal Goals.**

21 The foregoing establishes that WaterFix is not reasonably protective of Delta recreation, and
22 destroys much of the unique cultural value found in the Delta. Regardless of any particular Delta
23 Plan Policy, an action must be found inconsistent with the Delta Plan on the whole if it fails to
24 "protect[] and enhance[] the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values
25 of the Delta as an evolving place." (Water Code § 85054.) WaterFix fails this basic test.

26 **PART 2: WATERFIX IS INCONSISTENT WITH POLICY WR P1, WHICH
27 REQUIRES A FINDING OF INCONSISTENCY WITH THE DELTA PLAN.**

28 **A. A Finding Of Inconsistency With WR P1 Requires A Finding Of Inconsistency
With The Delta Plan On The Whole.**

WR P1 "is the very core of the Delta Plan." (Delta Stewardship Council Cases, JCCP 4785,
Respondent and Defendant Delta Stewardship Council's Reply to Electing Petitioners' and Water
Contractors' Opposition to Bifurcation, p. 3:6-9, filed May 9, 2014.) A covered action found to be

¹⁴ SCDA-305 is a true and correct copy of FEIR Figure 3-4 with the approximate Alternative 4A alignment and approximate location of several recreational impacts drawn in.

¹⁵ SCDA-306 is a true and correct copy of FEIR Figure 3-9.

1 inconsistent with WR P1, therefore cannot be consistent with the Delta Plan on the whole. A finding
2 of inconsistency with WR P1, therefore, necessarily requires a finding of inconsistency with the
3 Delta Plan on the whole.

4 **B. WaterFix Is Inconsistent With WR P1.**

5 A finding of inconsistency with WR P1 is required where:

6 1. The proposed action is a covered action within the meaning of the Delta Reform Act
7 and Delta Plan regulations.

8 2. The proposed covered action will have significant adverse environmental impact in
9 the Delta. WaterFix will have numerous and substantial adverse environmental impacts in the Delta.
10 For the purposes of WR P1, adverse environmental impacts include *all* adverse environmental
11 impacts in the Delta and are in no way limited to impacts on water quality or any other particular
12 category of impact.

13 3. One or more urban or agricultural water suppliers that will receive water as a result
14 of the covered action failed to comply with the three core requirements listed in WR P1 (23 CCR §
15 5003(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C)).

16 4. The failure of one or more water suppliers to comply with the three core
17 requirements of WR P1 significantly caused the need for the proposed covered action.

18 **1. WaterFix Is A Covered Action.**

19 The parties agree that California WaterFix is a covered action. Element 1 is met.

20 **2. WaterFix Will Have Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts In The Delta.**

21 WaterFix will have numerous and substantial adverse environmental impacts in the Delta.
22 For the purposes of WR P1, adverse environmental impacts include *all* adverse environmental
23 impacts in the Delta and are in no way limited to impacts on water quality or any other particular
24 category of impact.

25 As established above at pages 15–31 of this brief, WaterFix will have substantial adverse
26 environmental impacts on recreation. Although DWR grossly understates these impacts, the FEIR
27 agrees that WaterFix impacts on recreation in the Delta will be "significant and unavoidable."
28 (FEIR, Figure 15-0.) Impacts on Delta recreation are permanent and long-term, significant, and

1 cannot be mitigated to level of insignificance within the meaning of the California Environmental
2 Quality Act ("CEQA"), according to DWR's own findings:

3 **CEQA Conclusion:** Construction of Alternative 4A intakes and related water
4 conveyance facilities would result in permanent and long-term (i.e., lasting over 2
5 years) impacts on well-established recreational opportunities and experiences in the
6 study area because of access, noise, and visual setting disruptions that could result in
7 loss of public use. These impacts would occur year-round. the mitigation measures
8 described below, in combination with environmental commitments, would reduce
9 some construction-related impacts by compensating for effects on wildlife habitat
10 and species; minimizing the extent of changes to the visual setting, including
11 nighttime light sources; manage construction-related traffic; and implementing noise
12 reduction and complaint tracking measures. However, the level of impact would not
13 be reduced to a less-than-significant level because it is not certain the mitigation
14 would reduce the level of these impacts to less than significant in all the instances
15 occurring in the entire study area. Therefore, these impacts are considered significant
16 and unavoidable.

17 (WaterFix FEIR, p.15-469:26–37.)

18 The impacts from WaterFix generated noise are also permanent and long-term, significant,
19 and cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance within the meaning of CEQA. As demonstrated
20 by the testimony of acoustical engineer Charles Salter, DWR substantially understates the noise
21 impacts. (SCDA-65, x.4.000015, pp.1–8.) However, according to DWR's own findings the noise
22 impacts of Alternative 4A are significant and unavoidable. (WaterFix FEIR, Figure 23-0.) Noise
23 impacts from construction of intakes, construction of conveyance and associated facilities, truck
24 traffic, construction of power transmission lines, and activities associated with borrow/spoil areas
25 would all produce significant adverse impacts. "This [Impact NOI-1] would therefore be significant
26 and unavoidable." (WaterFix FEIR, p. 23-193–23–196.) Impact NOI-2 is also "considered
27 significant and unavoidable," (WaterFix FEIR, p.23-196–23-197), as is Impact NOI-4 (WaterFix
28 FEIR, p.23-198.)

WaterFix Alternative 4A will also have significant unavoidable adverse environmental
impacts on groundwater (WaterFix FEIR, Figure 7-0), transportation (WaterFix FEIR, Figure 19-0),
agricultural resources (WaterFix FEIR, Figure 14-0), aesthetics and visual resources (WaterFix
FEIR, Figure 17-0)

Element 2 is met.

3. One or more urban or agricultural water suppliers that will receive water as a result of the covered action failed to comply with the three core requirements listed in WR P1 (23 CCR § 5003(c)(1)(A), (B) & (C)).

1
2 As established in section II of this brief, compliance with the three core compliance
3 requirements is mandatory and reduced reliance cannot be demonstrated or achieved in any other
4 way.

5 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("Met") will receive the largest
6 share of WaterFix water deliveries. Met's 2015 Urban Water Management Plan is attached as
7 Attachment 13. Met has not complied with WR P1.

8 This element is met.

9 **4. The failure of one or more water suppliers to comply with the three core**
10 **requirements of WR P1 significantly caused the need for the proposed covered**
11 **action.**

12 The report *The Untapped Potential of California's Water Supply: Efficiency, Reuse, and*
13 *Stormwater* ("Untapped Potential") is attached to Delta Alliance's Appeal C20185-A2 with the file
14 name NRDC-4. Untapped Potential concludes that agricultural water conservation and efficiency
15 can save 5.6–6.6 million acre feet per year; urban water conservation and efficiency can save 2.9–
16 5.2 million acre feet per year; water reuse can save 1.2–1.8 million acre feet per year; and storm
17 water capture can save .4–.6 million acre feet per year. (Untapped Potential, p.4.)

18 Attached to Untapped Potential are the reports *Agricultural Water Conservation and*
19 *Efficiency Potential in California* ("Agricultural Conservation") and *Urban Water Conservation and*
20 *Efficiency Potential in California* ("Urban Conservation"). At page 2 of Urban Conservation: "The
21 majority of the state's urban water use is in the South Coast hydrologic region, home to over half the
22 state's population." The South Coast hydrologic region is largely encompassed in Met's service area.
23 Approximately 1.4 to 2.4 million acre feet could be saved within the South Coast region,
24 substantially reducing Met's need for imported water from the Delta.

25 The testimony of Doug Obegi before the SWRCB is also attached to Delta Alliance's appeal
26 as NRDC-1. Mr. Obegi's testimony provides:

27 Plans, reports, and other information developed by water districts, the State of
28 California, and independent studies demonstrate that there are opportunities to create
millions of acre feet of water supply through local and regional water projects within
the service areas of contractors of the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley
Project (CVP). Regional and local water supply projects including improved

1 agricultural and urban water use efficiency, water recycling, and stormwater capture
2 are technically feasible, cost-effective, and could create significant jobs in these
3 communities.

3 (NRDC-1, p.2:4–11.)

4 Mr. Obegi's testimony demonstrates that Met's Urban Water Management Plan fails to
5 account for the savings attributable to these projects and thereby over-projects the need for imported
6 Delta water. (NRDC-1:1–9.) "The *Mismatched* report provides compelling evidence that continued
7 improvements in water use efficiency and investments in local and regional water supply projects
8 will enable the region [Met's service area] to significantly reduce the demand for water from the
9 Delta, leaving more water for fish and wildlife." (NRDC-1, p.3:18–21)

10 However, the failure of Met to comply with WR P1 and thereby include in its projections the
11 savings from all technically feasible, cost-effective local and regional projects substantially caused
12 it to overestimate its need for imported Delta Water and significantly caused the impetus for
13 WaterFix.

14 The availability of millions of acre feet of "new water" that would obviate the need for
15 WaterFix is borne out by the Delta Plan itself. In the section titled "New Water For California" the
16 Delta Plan discusses "local water supply opportunities [and] the importance of local and regional
17 water management planning." (Delta Plan, p. 107.) The Delta Plan estimates an available supply of
18 new water from agricultural water use efficiency, recycled municipal water, and urban water use
19 efficiency at up to 7.4 million acre feet per year.

20 A substantial portion of these savings would accrue to water suppliers receiving Delta Water
21 through California WaterFix, obviating the need for WaterFix.

22 Any perceived ecological advantage to a new point of diversion (reducing OMR reverse
23 flows, for example) would be more than offset by substantial reductions in exports that could be
24 achieved with proper local and regional water management planning.

25 The burden is on DWR and its water suppliers to show their failure to meet WR P1 has not
26 significantly caused the impetus for WaterFix. Without inclusion of the core compliance
27 requirements for WR P1 in their water management plans, they cannot do so.

28 Element 4 is met and WaterFix should be found inconsistent with the Delta Plan for failure

1 to be consistent with WR P1.

2

3

CONCLUSION

4

For the foregoing reasons, Delta Alliance respectfully requests that the Council sustain this
5 appeal. DWR can, if it chooses, resubmit the WaterFix project after water suppliers comply with
6 WR P1 and DWR remedies the other inconsistencies in the Project.

7

8

October 15, 2018

9



10

11

Michael A. Brodsky

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28