

From: Jane Bird <jbird@ucrcommission.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 9:09 AM
To: bdcp.comments@noaa.gov
Subject: REVISED Statement of support for timely and appropriated decisions regarding the Bay Delta Plan and the need for a sustainable water supply
Attachments: UCRCBDCPCommentsRevised.pdf

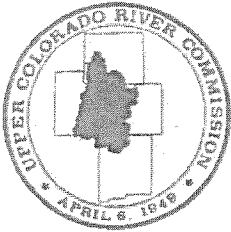
Mr. Wulff:

Mr. Ostler revised three words in the comment letter I submitted to you yesterday. Please use the attached as his official comments.

Thanks,

Jane Bird
Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel
Upper Colorado River Commission
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UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION

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BDCP/805

July 29, 2014

BDCP Comments

Ryan Wulff

National Marine Fisheries Service

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100

Sacramento, California 95814

Via email to bdcp.comments@noaa.gov

Re: Statement of support for timely and appropriate decisions regarding the Bay Delta Plan and the need for a sustainable water supply

Dear Mr. Wulff:

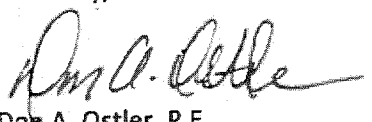
The Upper Colorado River Commission appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan and associated Draft Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (Draft Plan). The Upper Colorado River Commission is an interstate water administrative agency established by Congress to administer water from the Colorado River to the Upper Division States of Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico and to provide water released in accordance with the 1922 Colorado River Compact to the Lower Division states of Nevada, Arizona and California. The Upper Colorado River Commission (UCRC) is comprised of one representative appointed by the governor of each upper division state and one member appointed by the President to represent the United States. Even though the UCRC member states do not receive any water directly from the California Bay Delta, we are very much aware of how actions contemplated in the Draft Plan can have water supply consequences to the Colorado River and the Upper Division states in particular.

The UCRC is aware that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) has relied heavily upon water resources from the Bay Delta as well as the Colorado River as critical components of its water supply portfolio. Shortages and drought in the Bay Delta supply require MWD to rely more heavily upon its Colorado River allocation. The Colorado River has also been experiencing serious long-term drought with the last 14 years being the driest in more than 100 years of record. Any action or circumstance that causes depletion of lower basin storage in Lake Mead may also cause depletion of storage in Lake Powell in the upper basin and increases the risk of shortage. These synergistic effects of Lake Mead in the lower basin and Lake Powell in the upper basin occur because the 2007 Interim Guidelines require coordination of reservoir operations based upon trigger elevations in both reservoirs.

BDCP1805

The UCRC supports the development of a workable plan in California to address the needs and concerns of the many stakeholders while providing a reliable and sustainable supply of water. The continuing drought in California and the Colorado River Basin as well as the interconnected nature of these basins makes it imperative that timely and appropriate decisions be made now.

Sincerely,



Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Executive Director and Secretary
Upper Colorado River Commission