



COLUSA BASIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT

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August 23, 2011

Gerald H. Meral
Deputy Secretary
Natural Resources Agency
Bay Delta Conservation Plan
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Re: Yolo Bypass Fisheries Enhancement Planning Team

Dear Deputy Secretary Meral:

The undersigned agencies and associations, as upstream stakeholders that utilize the Colusa Basin Drain and through it the Yolo Bypass, have concerns regarding the Yolo Bypass Fisheries Enhancement Planning (YBFE) effort that is currently moving forward. While we have heard verbal commitments that the implementation of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), and its conservation measures will not affect our region, our immediate concerns with the YBFE planning options being reviewed are that these options do directly affect our interests in the Colusa Basin Drain and Yolo Bypass.

We have concerns in regards to winter flood flows and inundation of the Yolo Bypass. The BDCP YBFE strategies cannot result in additional flooding events or increased flood elevations that would result in additional flooding within the Colusa Basin region. The Department needs to provide modeling information and data showing that this concern has been addressed. Furthermore, the operational criteria for the Yolo Bypass during flood flows and inundation periods need to be examined for any adverse impacts to the region.

During managed flow and habitat enhancement periods in the Yolo Bypass, the Colusa Basin Drain and Ridge Cut must be recognized within the Plan as hydrologically disconnected from all Yolo Bypass Conservation Measures, including all habitat alternatives. Additionally, written

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assurances must be established preventing agencies, now and into the future, from setting new Colusa Basin Drain/Ridge Cut flow qualities or quantities. All plans must include measures that insure no fish migrate up the Ridge Cut and/or Colusa Basin Drain as part of their conservation strategies.

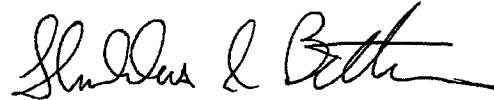
Lastly, we have concerns regarding the integrity of water delivery systems that flow from the Colusa Basin Drain into, and across the Yolo Bypass, and the existing water rights associated to these delivery systems.

In closing, any and all cost or mitigating measures required to address our above stated concerns must be borne by the direct beneficiaries of the BDCP, and not by landowners, farmers, and other users of the Colusa Basin Drain and/or Ridge Cut.


Sincerely yours,



Lynnel Pollock
Board Chairperson
Colusa Basin Drainage District



Thaddeus L. Bettner, PE
General Manager
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District



Lewis Bair
General Manager
Reclamation District 108



Lance Boyd
General Manager
Provident Irrigation District &
Princeton-Codora-Irrigation District



Larry Massa
Board Chairman
Colusa Drain Mutual Water Company

Cc: Karla Nemeth
Jason Roberts

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