

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0505

October 14, 2011

Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

As the representative in Congress for the Sacramento region, I am very concerned about the possible impacts of the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan to northern California. I know that our region stands to be impacted the most by this process.

Recently your staff met with me in Washington and we discussed some of my concerns. They also plan to meet with me again in the coming weeks. While I support a Delta solution, I know my constituents and communities expect the Sacramento region to remain whole if the BDCP is implemented. I am very much aware of the current BDCP process, but continue to have concerns that it may ultimately create problems for my region of the state given the alternatives presented.

Respecting northern California's interests in the Delta process encompasses several issues, but my highest priority is to safeguard the flood protection system in Sacramento. The Sacramento River above the Delta is not often considered when it comes to these kinds of impacts. As you may know, the Army Corps of Engineers has undertaken several major flood protection projects in Sacramento. When the projects are completed, close to \$2 billion dollars will have been invested in Sacramento's flood system. These projects are predicated on the ability to pass flood waters through the Yolo Bypass in the winter and spring months at a very high volume. Nothing should impede these flows. The BDCP, however, proposes significant changes to the Bypass in the form of restoration and taking land out of agriculture. Changing land use patterns can have significant effects on flood control systems, and I am concerned that this has not been carefully studied.

In addition to flood protection it should be noted that Sacramento County could be the location for the five water intakes if a conveyance is built; this would forever change our County's landscape as well as the available water in the river. These impacts must be fully mitigated.

I am seeking your support in reaching an agreement that northern California will not be harmed if and when the BDCP is implemented. None of us will be here 50 years from now, but the next generations will be and they deserve a project that works for all of California.

I look forward to working with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress

CC: Colonel Bill Leady P.E., Commander, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
John Laird, Secretary, California Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Jerry Meral, Deputy Secretary, California Department of Natural Resources
State Senator Darrell Steinberg
Assemblyman Roger Dickinson
Ben Carter, President, Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Supervisor Don Notolli, Sacramento County
Supervisor Mike McGowen, Yolo County
Rick Johnson, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency