July 26, 2011

Gerald Meral, Ph.D
Deputy Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth St. Suite #1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Meral:

Solano County staff and elected officials appreciated you taking the time to visit us this spring to discuss status of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) process. Among the various issues we discussed on March 28, 2011 was the concept of a joint State/Water Contractor/County process to create a Master Plan and policy framework for potential BDCP habitat projects that are or may be proposed in Solano County. This correspondence is a follow up to that discussion. We are trying to get a better sense from you and those you represent of the level of interest in this concept, and if so, to provide a framework for initiating further dialogue.

A potential initial topic could be the Cache Slough Complex, which has been identified by BDCP as a targeted habitat restoration area. Early discussions might focus on what the scope of work might look like for this joint planning effort along with consideration of funding options for the project. This would hopefully evolve into a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize scope, roles and responsibilities of the involved parties.

Given the importance of the Cache Slough Complex to the BDCP process and to the County, there seems to merit to exploring in greater detail early in any planning process how the BDCP objectives for this area can be integrated into the County’s long term planning, economic and environmental goals.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this concept.

Sincerely,

Bill Emlen, Director
Solano County Resource Management

cc: B. Corsello, County Administrator
    C. Covey, Assistant Director, Resource Management
    D. Okita, General Manager, Solano County Water Agency
    M. Hardey, General Manager, Reclamation District 2068