



Making San Francisco Bay Better

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December 16, 2008

Mike Chrisman, Secretary
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission to commend the work of the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force and Cabinet Committee. We have appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Delta Vision process, which has resulted in bold recommendations regarding the need for new governance and statewide efforts to address water supply reliability, Delta ecosystem revitalization, and the health, safety and sustainability of Delta communities.

Our staff's involvement in Delta Vision in 2008 has included serving on the Governance and Strategic Finance Work Group, providing a briefing for our Commissioners by Ecosystem Design Team Leader Stuart Siegel, and attending public meetings of the Blue Ribbon Task Force and Stakeholder Coordinating Group.

We were honored that our Commission served as a model for a more effective Delta governance system. We provided information on the *San Francisco Bay Plan* and the role federal consistency under the Coastal Zone Management Act can play to help the Task Force develop its recommendation regarding the development of a legally binding yet flexible California Delta Ecosystem and Water Plan. We also worked with Delta Vision staff to determine the appropriate sea level rise numbers to use for planning purposes, ensuring consistency between numbers used in the Bay and Delta.

We were particularly pleased to see the Task Force recommends increased Delta outflows and statewide efforts to promote water conservation and efficiency, as these efforts will benefit the entire estuary. We hope that these recommendations will be carried through in the Delta Vision Committee's recommendations for implementation.

We are available to make additional contributions to coordinating Bay and Delta resource management through other Delta planning processes, such as the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. We welcome your direction as to how we can be of service to and expand our Commission's participation in Delta planning in 2009.

Sincerely,

WILL TRAVIS
Executive Director

WT/SG/rca
cc: John Kirlin, Delta Vision
Phil Isenberg, Delta Vision