

Hello, and thank you for coming to Clarksburg, I would like to thank you in advance for taking the time to hear my comments, questions, and suggestions. My name is Brett Baker, I am a graduate of Delta High School and UC Davis, where I received my degree in Wildlife Fish and Conservation Biology under the guidance of Doctors Peter Moyle And Jeffery Mount- two Gentlemen who helped craft the Delta Vision Report. In addition I am a lifelong delta resident, the Sixth generation of my family to live and thrive on Sutter Island.

I would like to open my comments with an excerpt from Cadillac Desert.

This is the opening paragraph from Chapter 10 : Chinatown  
“Everyone knows there is a desert somewhere in California, but many people believe it is off in some remote corner of the state- The Mojave Desert, Palm springs, the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada, but inhabited California, most of it, is, by strict definition, a semi-desert. Los Angeles is drier than Beirut; Sacramento is as dry as the Sahel; San Francisco is just slightly rainier than Chihuahua. About 65 percent of the state receives under twenty inches of precipitation a year. California, which fools visitors into believing it is “lush”, is a beautiful fraud” much like this conservation planning effort we are here this evening to discuss. - That last bit was me.

Speaking with Karla She hoped I could provide you folks a bit of insight as to why us deltans are so upset and disturbed with this BDCP process.

My life experiences thus far have given me the opportunity to gain a bit of insight and understanding of your mindset, and the way you work, having been an employee of the resources agency, with the Department of Fish and Game, and having spent the last year as the Water and Agricultural policy analyst for the Lieutenant Governor. I have listened to and observed a considerable amount of discussions with agency staff, the likes of Lester Snow and

Undersecretary of the Resources Agency Karen Scarborough. I (I typically refrain from using first person examples- but this one is too good, so I will make an exception) shall never forget the first time I met with Mrs. Scarborough re: the BDCP. As I entered her office I was greeted with, and I quote “You must be here about us flooding Clarksburg.” To which I responded “I don’t find that amusing, I went to Delta High in Clarksburg” She then apologized as her comment may have come off a bit “Caddy” to which I responded “amongst other things” The rest of the conversation went...well, it went. I was greatly troubled by a staffers response to my inquisition regarding the incorporation of a SDWA funded independently engineered alternative, noting it was mentioned, but not in great detail, to which she responded, and again I quote “ We have to at least make them think we’re listening” followed by a thud which I’m pretty sure was Karen kicking her under the table.

As to OUR mindset, We’ve seen this before. You say you are striving for a transparent public process and I commend you on accomplishing this goal, if only one, IT’s transparent alright, WE see right through it. We didn’t fall off the sugar beet truck yesterday. We see this for what it is, a blatant water grab, an attempt to trump centuries old Senior Water Rights with Junior Water rights, because of a temporary appointment to a position of power of a man who married into the Kennedy’s. Take this message back to him, I don’t care how much lipstick you put on this pig , or how you dress this mutton up as lamb, were not buying it.

All these pretty colored handouts, maps and dog and pony shows, for what?? To Grow Lawns in Southern California, David Nahai, Executive Director Of LADWP the man in charge of asking Los Anglinos to ration their water usage last summer was found to be one of the biggest violators of his proposed policy with a daily household water use of up to 2,900 gallons, here he was asking regular citizens to reduce their consumption and he hadn’t even bothered to check the timer on the sprinklers in his back yard, or

drain his pool. - I google earthed it, he's got a pool along with everyone else on his block most of whom have tennis courts too-  
must be a pretty meager existence. Arnold asked for a 20%  
reduction, what'd he get 3%? As for the State water Resources Control Board- I've been told they will be the regulatory agency in charge of canal operations, don't worry Jerry I'm not bringing up the February scenario- I think the Mr. Nomellini Jr. embarrassed you enough the other night in Stockton. well I'm just gonna give this one example/for instance of SWRCB incompetence, thought there are many. Assembly Bill 885 Was Passed in 2000 requiring the SWRCB to develop and implement a state-wide standard for On-site Wastewater Management Systems (Septic Tanks), This year they finally got their draft EIR recommendations out, which were met with great public disapproval, they have taken Public Comment and have now opted to go for a new re-write. The project manager @ SWRCB says "We're looking at taking a new direction, basically were starting from the ground up again"- not much progress for nine years work, and you're telling us we're supposed to trust our future to a regulatory agency That can't even get it's shit together, literally. Appologies to the children in the crowd, and my mother.

I would hope that you folks stop and take the time to ask yourselves one crucial question, Is this project beneficial in the long term for California's Economy and Ecosystems?, or is this just The cheapest quick-fix to continue the Status Quo, poorly planned development of the State south of Tracy, being pushed by Water Peddlers whose primary concern is to provide their users with water at the cheapest rates possible- no wonder they have 'so graciously' offered to pay for this project. Need I remind you of your duties, to do what is best for the overall long term health of the State. Whether you realize it or not You are shaping the implementation and development of The Federal and State Endangered Species Acts and CEQA and NEPA, I implore you to uphold the spirit of these laws to accomplish the intentions of their

Authors, Not to simply go through a long, expensive drawn-out process simply to check the boxes on a Laundry list of requirements. It pains me to see the way you have twisted the work of honest scientists to fit your plans. In regards to all of your phony science I only have these two quotes for you “Essentially, all models are wrong, but some are useful” George Box, One of the 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries most influential statisticians- Father of modern day modeling.

“If I knew what I was doing people wouldn’t call it research”  
Albert Einstein

Historically speaking massive water diversions have been the downfall of many empires and this project stands to destroy the World’s 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> (depending who you ask) largest economy. Mesopotamia spent a great deal too many resources attempting to irrigate Salty Ag Land, and The Roman Empire was plagued with disease for failing to deal with their wastewater issues. There has never been an upstream water diversion in The State That did not result in a major ecological and Economical disaster for the People and Fish that Rely on those systems for their livelihoods.

There are real solutions to fixing California’s ailing water system, Storage-haven’t built any substantial storage in the state since the last time you tried to pass this vote, You folks are going to have to bite the bullet and build storage somewhere, the truth is this project adds no “new” water to the system, a system, now over allocated nearly four fold, which was originally designed to have 5.5 MAF in addition to what we have today. And you squabble over three dams, Sites, Los Vaqueros and an addition to the Millerton reservoir complex. What about building Shasta and Folsom to their originally designed capacity? And Rest-in-peace Auburn Dam. Why not finish the project you started over 50 years ago?

It was Arnold’s Uncle-in-law --John F. Kennedy, who said in 1962

"If we could ever competitively, at a cheap rate, get fresh water from salt water, that it would be in the long-range interests of humanity which would really dwarf any other scientific accomplishments." I try not to think of the progress that could have been made in the past 30 years Were the attention focused on this ditch put to work developing sensible desalination practices, or How much Purple pipe could have been laid during the last population/ development explosion, and how much Water Could have been recycled with the Dollars spent on this shame of a process. The Public Will Soon have to get over their problem with recycled water, honestly how many kidneys do you think their water has gone through from the time it leaves Redding till it arrives in Tracy. Our focus should be on constructing facilities like the Wastewater treatment plant in Orange County that received the Stockholm Industry Water Award this past year, the equivalent of the Noble Peace prize in the World of Water. The reverse osmosis used at this plant is the same process that can be utilized to desalinate brackish ground water, which causes no conflict with marine mammals, and has been shown to be less energy intensive than conveying water through the SWP over the Grapevine. - Don't take my word for it ask Dr. Robert Wilkinson Of UC Santa Barbra. These are imbedded costs that will be a continual burden for the taxpayers and water users of our great state, these are things that should be taken into consideration throughout this decision making process.

In closing I would like to support the concept of regional self-sufficiency and would like to request an extension of the 90 day public comment period upon the completion of the EIR/EIS.

My final suggestion, And I would like to preface this by saying that I respect this man in the upmost, however I will not give him the advantage of "misunderestimating" his abilities, craftiness or his political clout. I have realized you folks have a propensity for getting ahead of yourselves in this planning process, I am curious

if you already have names picked out for your facilities. May I make this suggestion? As I'm sure this propaganda in Our Local paper crossed his desk more than once if it did not get its beginnings there, Arnold's partner in crime, who held Jeffery Kightlinger's job prior to him and holds Donn Zea's leash. As he is the Harvey Banks of his day I suggest you name it the Timothy Quinn, pumping plant, , for your Swarzeneger Canal. --I'll be back.