



## DELTA WETLANDS PROJECT

May 30, 2008

Ms. Delores Brown  
Chief, Office of Environmental Compliance  
Department of Water Resources  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Notice of Preparation of Bay Delta Conservation Plan EIR/EIS

Dear Ms. Brown:

Delta Wetlands Properties owns 20,000 acres on four Delta islands; Webb, Bouldin, Holland and Bacon. It is responsible for the maintenance of 56 miles of levees. The largest private landowner in the Delta, Delta Wetlands Properties has initiated an in-Delta storage project known as the Delta Wetlands Project (Project). The Project will divert and store water on Webb Tract and Bacon Island and create and enhance wetlands to manage wildlife habitat on Bouldin Island and most of Holland Tract. The stored water will be provided to municipal, industrial and agricultural users within the Central Valley Water Project and State Water Project service areas. The stored water may also be released to enhance Delta outflow and water quality.

The habitat islands, designed under the direction of the California Department of Fish and Game, will be set aside permanently as wetland and wildlife habitat, providing both seasonal and permanent wetlands, riparian woodland zones, ponds and lakes, and grasslands. In addition, a significant level of farming activity will be integrated into the habitat plan, preserving much of the history and character of the area. The habitat islands will provide extremely valuable wetland and wildlife benefits to the Delta, supporting a wide variety of species, including listed and endangered plants and animals and migratory waterfowl.

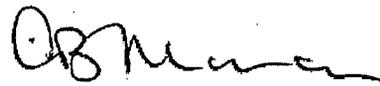
The Project will directly further the goals of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) of providing for the conservation and management of covered species within the planning area; and restoring and protecting water supply, water quality, ecosystem, and ecosystem health. The 9,000 acres of habitat provided by the Project will be one of the

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largest new conservation efforts in the region and will provide numerous fish and wildlife benefits. Delta Vision and the BDCP have also long espoused the notions that surface and groundwater storage are important tools needed to capture runoff for future water supply, provide flexibility for flood management and help maintain Delta water quality and fish habitats through timed releases. Additional in-Delta storage will provide additional flexibility in the timing of pumping from the Delta, thus protecting at-risk fish species. The Project is a definitive step in the direction of achieving the BDCP's goals. As such, the BDCP should consider including the Project as a key element of the conservation plan.

Delta Wetlands Properties intends to submit further comments throughout the development of the BDCP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anson B. Moran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "B".

Anson B. Moran  
General Manager