



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge  
1624 Hood-Franklin Road, Elk Grove California 95757

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

**SUBJECT: Comment on Notice of Preparation for Proposed Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement For The Bay Delta Conservation Plan**

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing in regards to the Department of Water Resources Notice of Preparation of an environmental impact report and statement (EIR/EIS) for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) was established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) in 1994 to protect 18,000 acres of valuable agricultural lands and natural habitats for the benefit of a wide variety of migratory birds and wildlife including many state and federal species of concern. The Refuge project area lies east of the former Southern Pacific Railroad line and extends from approximately Freeport, straddling Interstate 5 south to below Twin Cities Road (see attached map).

I am concerned about the potential impacts of this project to important Refuge habitats, and request that the EIR/EIS specifically analyze any foreseeable direct, indirect and cumulative effects to the Refuge. Refuge staff will be reviewing and commenting on the various alternatives as they are developed and we receive additional details.

The Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge is the 505th refuge in the National Wildlife Refuge System and one of the few urban wildlife refuges in the nation. Furthermore, it was designated as one of the six most threatened refuges in the nation in 2005 by the National Wildlife Refuge Association, primarily due to urban encroachment. This Refuge provides crucial wintering and breeding habitat for a variety of migratory and resident species, including species of concern such as Swainson's hawk, greater sandhill crane and giant garter snake, as well as important outdoor recreational and environmental education opportunities for the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on a project of such regional importance. If you need additional information, please contact me at (916) 775-4421 or [beatrice\\_treiterer@fws.gov](mailto:beatrice_treiterer@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

Beatrix Treiterer  
Acting Refuge Manager



# Land Status

## Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

- Cooperative Agreement
- Conservation Easement
- County or State Land
- Private Ownership
- Owned in Fee Title
- Approved Refuge Boundary
- Refuge Headquarters



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

