

The Advisory Council has written letters supporting some actions that have already been implemented. This chapter contains copies of 14 such letters dating through 1993.

Table 4 lists the support letters and shows the page number where each is reproduced.

<p align="center"><b>Table 4</b>  <b>LETTERS OF SUPPORT BY THE ADVISORY COUNCIL</b>  <i>Listed Chronologically</i></p>		
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03/05/92	Support San Joaquin River Parkway Concept and Need for Wildlife Corridor while Maintaining Channel Capacity . . . . . (Dangermond and Associates)	183
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06/22/93	Urge Implementation of Six Actions Identified in the SJRMP Salmon Action Plan . . . . . (Dept. of Fish and Game)	191
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To: Bill S. Satow  
Department of Boating and Waterways  
1629 "S" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-7291

From: Department of Water Resources

Subject: Water Hyacinth Problem on the Merced River

We are writing to express our support for your efforts regarding the water hyacinth eradication program on the Merced River and to confirm our understanding of your commitment. The San Joaquin River Management Program Action Team is encouraged by the Department of Boating and Waterways' commitment to the program.

The San Joaquin River Management Program Advisory Council discussed the water hyacinth problem on the Merced River at its October 12 meeting. As a result of this discussion, a meeting was held on November 20 in Merced in hopes of finding a continuing funding source for the already established hyacinth eradication program. At the November meeting, the Department of Boating and Waterways agreed to indefinitely fund, pending availability of funds, the hyacinth eradication program on the Merced River. Along with continued support from the Merced County Agricultural Commissioner's office, we feel confident that your efforts will result in a substantial reduction of this problem in the Merced River.

Again, we applaud your financial support to this program. If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Robert G. Potter, Chair  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council  
ATSS 445-8938

January 25, 1991

Robert G. Potter  
1115-2 Resources Building

Louis A. Beck, Chief  
San Joaquin District

Public Workshop on Friant Dam and Millerton Lake Flood Control Operation

This is in response to your request for a report on the public workshop on the Friant Dam and Millerton Lake flood control operation held on January 24 in Fresno. The workshop was held to gather public concerns on a proposed change in flood control operations of Friant Dam.

I was the facilitator on the panel. Other panel members were as follows:

Roger Janssen, U. S. Corps of Engineers  
Fred Kindel, U. S. Corps of Engineers  
Huxley Madeheim, U. S. Corps of Engineers  
Paul Fujitani, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Alex Hildebrand, San Joaquin River Flood Control Association  
Dee Davis, The Reclamation Board  
Ray Lenaburg, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Madeheim gave an overview of the need for the study, current operations, and proposed operations. The study was proposed by the San Joaquin River Flood Control Association.

Madeheim pointed out that a restudy had been done in 1989. The results of that study increased the 100-year floodflows from 19,600 to 27,400 cubic feet per second. An increase of 8,000 cfs is approximately equivalent to a 1-foot rise in flood elevation downstream.

Madeheim discussed two possible improvements to operations: (1) increase space dedicated to flood control (this would cut into conservation space) and (2) let water out at a greater rate (releases greater than channel capacity pose a hazard, however).

Madeheim stated that the study would take one year to complete.

Hildebrand pointed out that the SJR Flood Control Association is not proposing that any conservation space be taken nor that more damage occur downstream. Their concern is only with minimizing the impact of peak flows resulting from rain storm events. Their proposal is to reduce outflow as soon as the crest of the inflow has past.

Fujitani stated that the Bureau is concerned not only with flood control and conservation, but with recreation, and that any changes to operations will be reviewed by the Bureau.

Robert G. Potter  
Page 2  
January 25, 1991

Davis stated that, if major changes result from this study, The Reclamation Board will be required to do a restudy also, which may be difficult under current budgetary restraints.

Lenaburg said that FEMA is planning to do a restudy if the flood elevation is changed by 1 foot or more.

Jerry Lakeman with the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District expressed concern about vegetation encroachment into the channel resulting from lower flows on a more regular basis and higher flows more rarely.

The meeting was attended by approximately 40 people. In addition to those mentioned above, there were representatives from irrigation districts, Fresno City and County governments, San Joaquin River Parkway, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Fresno Neighborhood Alliance, the California Water Commission, and Assemblyman Costa's office. No press people were present.

cc: James U. McDaniel  
Suzanne G. Butterfield

PJLandis:cjm

CJMMEMO-POT

MAY 15 199.

Colonel Laurence R. Sadoff  
District Engineer  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
650 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento, California 95814-4794

Dear Colonel Sadoff:

On March 8, the San Joaquin River Management Program Advisory Council agreed that peak flow operations of several reservoirs on the San Joaquin River should be investigated. The purpose of the investigation would be to determine if peak flows could be reduced in the San Joaquin River by revising and coordinating release schedules. The investigation should be done in conjunction with a similar study under way for Millerton Lake.

This letter is to request that the Corps of Engineers undertake this investigation of reservoir release schedules during peak floodflows for the following reservoirs with federally financed flood control space: Don Pedro, Eastman, Hensley, McClure, New Melones, and Pine Flat.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact me at (916) 445-8938 or have your staff contact Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Chairperson of the San Joaquin River Management Program Action Team, at (209) 445-5137.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

JUL 19 1991

To: Counties of Calaveras, Kern, Kings, Fresno, Madera,  
Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, and  
Tuolumne and Cities Within Those Counties

This is to inform you of planning efforts currently being undertaken by the San Joaquin River Management Program. The program was created by Assembly Bill 3603 and signed into law in September 1990. These efforts involve identifying actions which can be taken to benefit legitimate uses of the San Joaquin River system. Actions include the development of compatible solutions to problems related to flood protection, water supply, water quality, recreation, and fish and wildlife needs.

In his May 8 letter to Senator Bradley regarding proposed federal legislation on water, Governor Wilson cited as an example of progress toward cooperation on economic and environmental problems that "the State has established by statute the San Joaquin River Management Advisory Council to deal with the complex and interrelated uses of the San Joaquin River Basin." This undertaking involves representatives from government agencies, the private sector, and environmental organizations.

We are offering our assistance to cities and counties within the San Joaquin River Management Program study area in their planning decisions, related to the uses mentioned above, along the San Joaquin River and its tributaries. We ask that we be kept informed of projects being planned within your jurisdiction which have the potential to impact the San Joaquin River system. Such communication can help protect the social, environmental, and economic value of the San Joaquin River system and assure its maximum beneficial use.

Your participation in sharing information with us is essential. If you have any questions or if we can be of assistance in this regard, please contact Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Chair of the San Joaquin River Management Program Action Team, at (209) 445-5137.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chairperson  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

PJLandis:cjm:rl/WP:SJRMP.RGP

AUG 2 1991

Dave Kennedy  
Director

DWR Participation in San Joaquin River Aggradation Control  
Appraisal

This memorandum formalizes a request from the SJRMP Advisory Council for the assistance of our agency to conduct a reconnaissance study of partial aggradation control in the San Joaquin River along the valley floor.

The attached proposal has been considered and approved in concept by both the SJRMP Action Team and Advisory Council. As Chairman of that Advisory Council, I am presenting this proposal to the Department, and I recommend approval of Department participation in the necessary studies. Additional information, which can only be provided by a reconnaissance-level study, is needed before the Council can determine the relative benefits of this course of action.

The Advisory Council needs to know the feasibility, cost, funding source and time frame required to control sediment using this approach, and I believe it is now appropriate for the Department to estimate what it will take to complete a reconnaissance, and if resources are available, to carry it out. If you agree, please indicate your approval in the space below.

Suzanne Butterfield (327-1636) can provide details on this matter.



Bob Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management Program  
Advisory Council

Colonel Laurence R. Sadoff  
District Engineer  
Sacramento District  
United States Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

Dear Colonel Sadoff:

The San Joaquin River Management Program Action Team supports your recently initiated reconnaissance study to investigate flooding problems related to insufficient channel capacity on the San Joaquin River. The SJRMP Advisory Council recommends that the Corps study accomplish the following:

1. Evaluate the overall flood control capabilities of the river system. This would include an investigation into the actual capacity as compared to design capacity and frequency of protection of each reach of the river and the corresponding water surface elevation.
2. Identify locations throughout the system where the deposition of sediment causes flood control problems. In addition, identify the source of the sediments and identify possible solutions to sedimentation problems.
3. Identify areas of historic levee seepage problems and failures. Perform soil analysis at these locations to determine if structural problems exist. Make recommendations for structural and nonstructural improvements and for additional areas to be investigated.

The area of study is the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam downstream through the South Delta Water Agency, including all tributaries of the San Joaquin River up to the first major dam on each tributary.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please call me at (916) 653-6055 or have your staff contact Dale Hoffman-Floerke of the SJRMP Action Team at (209) 445-5137.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

bcc: James U. McDaniel  
Suzanne Butterfield

PJLandis:cjm

CJM\SJRMPCOR

MAR - 5 1992

Mr. Jeff Arthur  
Project Manager  
Dangermond and Associates  
1721 Second Street, Suite 203  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Arthur:

The San Joaquin River Management Program Advisory Council is authorized by Assembly Bill 3603 to identify actions which can be taken to benefit legitimate uses of the San Joaquin River system. Through a consensus approach to endorsement or recommendation of specific actions, we are working to develop compatible solutions to problems related to flood protection, water supply, water quality, recreation, and fish and wildlife needs.

The SJRMP Advisory Council supports the basic concept San Joaquin River Parkway between Friant Dam and Highway 145. We endorse the need for a wildlife corridor and support the fundamental goals identified in the second draft plan. However, we have concerns regarding the management and maintenance of channel capacity. We therefore recommend the following additions to the parkway plan:

1. The parkway plan will explicitly recognize that use of the river and floodway to transport floodwater is a beneficial use which must be protected.
2. The parkway will be managed to maintain the combined existing flow capacity in the river channel and the designated floodway.
3. The parkway will be managed to maintain the river stage required to pass any given flow, thereby not increasing flooded area and not requiring an increase in the designated floodway unless the resulting loss in private land value is first purchased from willing sellers.
4. The parkway be will managed to allow for the restoration by other parties of channel and floodway flow capacity to the stage/flow relationship that existed at the time Friant Dam was completed.

Mr. Jeff Arthur  
MAR -5 1992

Page Two

5. Parkway lands will be managed to control and reduce erosion in the floodway.
6. The parkway will be managed to preserve private water rights and associated diversion facilities.

We are confident that with these additions and barring any unforeseen changes, the final draft of the San Joaquin River parkway plan will have the full support of the SJRMP Advisory Council.

If you have any questions in this regard, please call me at (916) 653-6055.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

PJLandis:cjm:jc

CJM\PARKWAY

MAR - 9 1993

Mr. Roger Patterson, Regional Director  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825

Dear Mr. Patterson:

As you know, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's San Joaquin Basin Initiative and the State's San Joaquin River Management Program are working together to resolve problems on the San Joaquin River.

The Water Quality Subcommittee of SJRMP has reported to the Action Team and Advisory Council that USBR is letting a contract to Dr. Luis Garcia. Dr. Garcia's work, together with a USBR contract already in place with the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, will develop a natural resource workstation interface and software which will link real-time water quality data with a physics-based model of basin hydrology. The linkage of real-time data with the appropriate models will permit users to forecast water quality conditions in the River. The Subcommittee has asked that we express our appreciation for the support these contracts will provide to the real-time water quality management demonstration project the Subcommittee has under way.

This sort of mutually supportive interaction is what the SJRMP enabling legislation envisioned as the best way to resolve conflicts and improve conditions in the River. Members of the Water Quality Subcommittee will offer whatever help they can to Dr. Garcia and LBL.

As Chairman of the Advisory Council, I am pleased to relay our appreciation for these timely contracts. If I can be of any assistance, please call me at (916) 653-6055, or you may contact Mr. Earle W. Cummings, Chairperson of the Water Quality Subcommittee, at (916) 327-1656.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chair  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

ECummings:tc  
WP:A:EARLSWQ.LTR

MAR 23 1993

Mr. Walt Pettit, Executive Officer  
State Water Resources Control Board  
901 P Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Pettit:

SWRCB Support for San Joaquin Water Quality Monitoring

The San Joaquin River Management Program Advisory Council respectfully requests the assistance of the SWRCB in continued operation of the network of water quality monitoring stations on the San Joaquin River and its tributaries on the valley floor.

The SJRMP Advisory Council has learned that several water quality monitoring stations supported by the SWRCB are in jeopardy of closing or actually scheduled for elimination. At the same time, the Water Quality Subcommittee of the SJRMP Action Team has been making progress in better coordinating water operations. This improved coordination relies on data from the existing network. If stations are closed to save operation and maintenance costs, it will probably preclude the improvements in water quality and water conservation opportunities that appear possible with the carefully orchestrated real-time operation of drainage discharges, fish releases, wetland storage and agricultural diversions. It will also jeopardize a SWRCB-administered Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Grant for the demonstration project.

The Water Quality Subcommittee, in identifying those stations with the highest priority for real-time water quality management, found a small amount of duplication. Duplicate stations have been brought to the attention of the agencies involved, and abandoned. The present level of monitoring is the minimum needed for the pilot project to adequately forecast and coordinate operations.

Mr. Walt Pettit, Executive Officer

MAR 23 1993  
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The SJRMP Advisory Council urges the SWRCB to maintain the existing level of water quality monitoring in the San Joaquin Basin. The Resources Agency will be given a copy of this memo so that they can be mindful of the need for these monitoring stations to support the real-time water quality management demonstration project when making decisions on the State budget. You may wish to forward this to CalEPA with the same thought.

If you have questions, please contact me at (916) 653-6055 or your staff may contact Mr. Earle Cummings of DWR's Division of Local Assistance, at (916) 327-1656.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chair  
San Joaquin River Management Program  
Advisory Council

bcc: David N. Kennedy  
Carroll M. Hamon  
Louis A. Beck

DHoffman-Floerke:mp

WP:Advcnswb

Mr. Walter Yep, Chief  
Planning Division  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento  
Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

MAR 25 1993

Dear Mr. <sup>walt</sup>Yep:

This is in response to your transmittal of the San Joaquin River Mainstem, California, January 1993 Reconnaissance Report, sent February 1, 1993. I apologize for the delay in responding.

I am pleased to see that several of the alternatives discussed in the Reconnaissance Report are as a result of your staffs' involvement with the San Joaquin River Management Program. Further, I feel that the use of peak flood flows off the San Joaquin River for wetland enhancement is a project well worth pursuing.

Unfortunately, the State's financial situation is such that entering into a feasibility study with Department of Water Resources (and/or others) as the non-federal cost-share partner is not financially feasible. However, there is still quite a lot of local interest in pursuing some sort of reduced scale pilot project applying the basic concepts outlined in the Corps Reconnaissance Study.

Department staff has recently met with State, federal and local entities that would benefit from such a pilot project and these groups are now working on a detailed proposal for a project. This venture will have a much greater chance for support if the Corps participates. In furtherance of this participation the California Water Commission has recommended that a special appropriation of funds be made available for continued Corps involvement.

DWR staff will continue to work with your staff to get this pilot project implemented as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding this information, please call me at (916) 653-6055, or have your staff call Dale Hoffman-Floerke at (916) 327-1661.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter  
Chief Deputy Director  
Department of Water Resources

bcc: Pete Rabbon  
Paula Landis ✓

DHoffman-Floerke:mp \ WP:WYEP.ltr

MAY - 3 1993

Mr. Dave Koehler, Executive Director  
San Joaquin River Parkway  
and Conservation Trust  
6061 North Fresno Street  
Fresno, California 93710

Dear Mr. Koehler:

I am writing in support of the purchase of Rank Island. The San Joaquin River Management Program supports current efforts to preserve ecologically sensitive river bottom lands consistent with the San Joaquin River Parkway Plan.

SJRMP goals are to identify problems and solutions to issues related to wildlife, flood water conveyance, water quality, water quantity, and recreation. The public acquisition of Rank Island will help to meet SJRMP's objectives in each of these areas.

Rank Island represents some of the best wildlife habitat currently existing within this reach of the river. As you may know, SJRMP served as member of the San Joaquin River Parkway Task Force, and we are encouraged with recent efforts toward its implementation.



JUN 22 1993

Mr. Boyd Gibbons, Director  
California Department of Fish and Game  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Gibbons:

During the 1987-1992 drought, the San Joaquin fall-run Chinook salmon escapements again fell to very low levels. With a good water year, we have the opportunity to help accelerate the recovery of the San Joaquin fall-run. Now is the time to begin the process so that needed measures are in place before the 1993 fall spawning run begins.

In January 1993, the San Joaquin River Advisory Council approved San Joaquin Salmon Action Plan which was sent to you for your consideration. The Salmon Action Plan (copy enclosed) identifies the following measures which we urge be implemented for this fall:

Request the California Fish and Game Commission to pursue emergency regulations that would extend the zero salmon limit in the San Joaquin drainage downstream from first major dam on all spawning tributaries south of Stockton to River Mile 0 near Chipps Island (Plan 1.b at p. 9).

Current regulations protect San Joaquin salmon only after they have migrated upstream of Interstate Highway 5 Bridge near Mossdale Crossing. Angling in the Delta during the fall and winter migration months can harvest adult salmon destined for the San Joaquin tributaries.

Increase law enforcement efforts to protect habitat and to curb illegal activities (Plan 1.d and 1.e at pp. 10-11).

The illegal take of salmon has long been identified as a problem within the San Joaquin Basin. With the recent low spawning runs, the illegal take has a substantially greater

Mr. Boyd Gibbons, Director

JUN 22 1993

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impact on the number of successfully spawning adults and subsequent escapements. Despite budget constraints a priority should be placed on protection of spawning runs and habitats through 1996. Similar to the expanded enforcement effort in the Delta to reduce illegal take losses, funding from the Delta Pumps Fish Protection Agreement or other sources could be pursued to increase enforcement efforts in the San Joaquin Basin.

Encourage voluntary participation in stream-water programs (Plan 1.f at p. 11).

The Merced Flyfishing Club's Stream Watch Program, now in its fourth year, is an excellent example of this type of activity. Similar programs should be encouraged on the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and mainstem San Joaquin Rivers.

Promote programs to educate the public on the importance of protecting salmon populations and their habitat (Plan 1.h at p. 11).

Press releases and public information articles in San Joaquin Valley newspapers and other publications on the importance of protecting the returning spawners and on the voluntary actions being taken by SJRMP participants and others to restore and protect the San Joaquin salmon should be published and widely distributed. DFG should continue and expand Region 4's successful cooperative classroom incubator program. In addition, we request that you do the following:

Encourage measures that would substantially reduce dissolved oxygen depletion in the Stockton area during the period September through December and actively pursue long-term solutions to that problem.

The Stockton area is an important migration corridor for adult salmon on their spawning run up to the San Joaquin Basin tributaries. Dredging and other activities in the Stockton area contribute to the dissolved oxygen blockage which prevents upstream migration. Such activities should be planned and carried out so as to avoid this problem and should be coordinated with agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Boyd Gibbons, Director

JUN 22 1993

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Appoint a San Joaquin Basin Flow Coordinator to coordinate instream flows for salmon.

For timely and efficient coordination of San Joaquin flows DFG should consider appointing one person who would be responsible for speaking for the DFG on all flow matters in the San Joaquin Basin. DFG has appointed a flow coordinator for the Tuolumne River as required under its March 15, 1992 Agreement with the Turlock and Modesto Irrigation Districts. This concept should be expanded to the entire Basin and provision should be made for timely coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where needed.

I am available at (916) 653-6055 to discuss SJRMP Council issues. Roger Masuda at (209) 667-5501 and Roger Guinee at (916) 978-4613 Co-chair the SJRMP Fisheries Subcommittee. Bill Loudermilk represents DFG on the SJRMP Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management  
Program Advisory Council

DHoffman-Floerke:mlg

TA:A:\Gibbons

JUL 14 1993

Colonel John N. Reese  
District Engineer  
Sacramento District USACE  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Notice 199100283; Mud Slough Wetland Fill

Dear Colonel Reese:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on Public Notice 199100283; Mud Slough Wetland Fill.

The San Joaquin River Management Program is an effort by a broad array of agencies, organizations and individuals to address in a cooperative manner the problems of the San Joaquin River. A list of the participants at a typical meeting is attached to indicate the diversity of interests involved, and well over 400 agencies and individuals are regularly provided with the information and positions adopted by the SJRMP Advisory Council.

The Program was established by Assembly Bill 3603 in 1990. The Legislature found that too frequently, independent, uncoordinated actions pit some beneficial uses of water against others, with a resultant loss in the river system's overall health. The SJRMP Advisory Council was created to better coordinate the actions of agencies and individuals.

The present use of internal channels and ditches to convey both drainage water and useable water through the Grasslands Water District hampers the delivery of useable wetland water supplies. The proposed use of the San Luis Drain to convey drainage water will free the internal channels for exclusive delivery of useable water and thereby reduce selenium contamination of nearby wetland areas. Opportunities for wetland use of good quality agricultural surface return flows will increase. Increased wetland use will likely result in slightly higher concentrations of salt in water draining from wetlands

Colonel John N. Reese

JUL 14 1993  
Page Two

during the spring months. Swain and Quinn (1991) also postulated a small increase in selenium and boron concentrations in the River, due to reduced mixing of surface and drainage water and the improvement in water quality delivered to the wetlands. The authors maintained that the small increase in concentration reaching the River would be more than compensated by the reduced risk of selenium contamination in the wetlands and waterfowl clubs in the Grasslands. The SJRMP Advisory Council considers the issuance of this permit essential to construct the project, and to be in the public interest for clean water, as the project reduces the risk of contaminating the significant wetlands of the Grasslands.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, with assistance from CH2M-Hill, has proposed a comprehensive monitoring program for the Grasslands area to measure the impact (if any) of the project. The USBR monitoring program has been endorsed by the Use of the San Luis Drain Oversight Committee, which has representatives from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The monitoring program would measure selenium, boron and total dissolved solids discharged to the San Joaquin River on a quarterly basis, and provide a basis for adjustments to avoid exceeding the historical level of contamination. The monitoring program has five objectives: (1) measure contaminant concentrations in water, sediment, plants and animals in the San Luis Drain, Mud Slough, and the San Joaquin River; (2) assess the potential for adverse biological effects; (3) measure and compare the contaminants in the same sampling media from Salt Slough to determine the benefits of the project; (4) assess the toxicity of drainage water discharged to Mud Slough; and (5) ensure that sensitive species are not harmed by project-related activities.

The SJRMP Advisory Council concurs in the issuance of a permit for this project because of the commitments made by potential beneficiaries of the project to carry out the monitoring program developed by the Oversight Committee. Furthermore, the drainage entities have committed to manage their operations in response to the monitoring results so as to not adversely affect conditions on the San Joaquin River. This includes a commitment to do any necessary monitoring, data analysis and operational modification to assure that the operation will not cause or exacerbate violations of downstream salinity standards at Vernalis or elsewhere. Permit conditions imposed by the Corps of Engineers should be compatible with these

Colonel John N. Reese

JUL 14 1993

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commitments. Finally, our Water Quality Subcommittee advises that with the proposed project in place, the ability of water managers to accurately measure and manage drainage impacts will be improved.

Our Water Quality Subcommittee will work with all parties to assist in the implementation of any permit conditions which may be imposed on this worthwhile project. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please call me at (916) 653-6055 or you may contact Mr. Earle Cummings, Water Quality Subcommittee Chairperson, at (916) 327-1656.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By  
Edward F. Huntley

for Robert G. Potter, Chairman  
San Joaquin River Management Program  
Advisory Council

Attachment

bcc: Dale Hoffman-Floerke  
Earle Cummings

ECummings:tc  
WP/a:corpspng

NOV - 4 1993

Colonel John N. Reese  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Colonel Reese:

San Joaquin River Mainstem Study

This letter is being sent to express our disappointment that the recently proposed demonstration project involving the use of peak flood flows off the San Joaquin River for wetland benefits will not be implemented. As you are aware, this project was one of several identified in your recently completed San Joaquin River Mainstem Reconnaissance Study. The Department as well as the San Joaquin River Management Program Advisory Council were optimistic that the Corps, along with the California Department of Fish and Game, could implement such a project with multiple benefits. It is disappointing to think that we were so close to a worthwhile project, yet unable to move forward due to federal institutional constraints.

The Department is still very interested in projects that could benefit wetlands, flood management, water quality and fisheries in the San Joaquin River Basin as identified in your Mainstem Reconnaissance Study. At this time, however, the State is not in a position to accept financial responsibility from a cost-share standpoint. A demonstration project at some location along the Mainstem would still be very valuable in gaining much needed information, as opposed to continue to study the potential options.

The Department and SJRMP Advisory Council will continue to work with the Corps on developing potential projects in the SJR Basin as they relate to improving existing conditions on the river. At the same time, we look forward to your Agency's continued participation on the SJRMP Advisory Council and support in the Program.

Colonel John N. Reese

NOV - 4 1993

Page Two

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues further please call me at (916) 653-6055.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ROBERT G. POTTER

Robert G. Potter  
Chief Deputy Director, DWR  
and Chairman, San Joaquin River  
Management Council

cc: Carroll M. Hamon  
Deputy Director

Peter D. Rabbon, Chief  
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