



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SEP 12 2012

MP-100
ADM-1.10

Mr. Bill George
President, Board of Directors
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
P.O. Box 251
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Mr. George:

On behalf of Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, I am responding to your letter of August 1, 2012, regarding the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). I apologize for the delay in this response.

Thank you for sharing your views on the BDCP. Protecting upstream water users is important to both the State and Federal governments in this process. The State and Federal governments are committed to finding ways to develop the BDCP without resulting in adverse effects to the water rights of those in the watershed of the Delta or imposing obligations on water users upstream of the Delta to supplement flows in and through the Delta. In addition, State and Federal governments are committed to the "user pay" principle, and the State and Federal water contractors agree that the costs of any new water conveyance facility and associated mitigation of that facility would be paid through charges to the water users who would benefit from its development and operation.

As BDCP efforts move forward, the Bureau of Reclamation continues to have a vested interest in maintaining the statutory and legal obligations of the Central Valley Project (CVP); Reclamation represents the interests of the CVP in the BDCP process. I encourage direct participation by the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association in the BDCP process to represent those interests important to its members and constituents. BDCP working groups and public meetings provide an opportunity for this representation of interests and engagement in the process.

California's complex water problems require thoughtful, science-based solutions that are developed with the support of Federal and State governments and key stakeholder groups. I look forward to working with you in the preparation of a BDCP that is beneficial to all regions of California.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Glaser
Regional Director

cc: See next page.

cc: Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Doug LaMalfa
California Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Ted Gaines
California Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Linda Halderman
California Assembly
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Kristin Olsen
California Assembly
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Mark Cowin
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Department of Water Resources
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Honorable Tom McClintock
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Tom Berryhill
California Senate
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Honorable Beth Gaines
California Assembly
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Honorable Dan Logue
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