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## OID, SSJID respond to EPA rejection of state water board's unsupported salinity plan

The Oakdale and South San Joaquin Irrigation Districts released this statement regarding the federal Environmental Protection Agency's June 11 letter to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding proposed lower salinity level in its revised Bay-Delta Plan:

"Like others who have weighed in on the state board's inadequate submission to EPA, the Districts feel strongly that more than just the salinity standard is at stake here. Flow alone to address salinity alone is not protective of all the other reasonable and beneficial uses the state must consider, which it did not, and which EPA needs to evaluate and ensure.

"There's more lifting needed by both these agencies in order to be protective of all the Central Valley interests, including agriculture, drinking water and the environment.

"We remain open to continued discussions with state representatives about flow requirements in the Stanislaus River that fairly and appropriately balances the diversified water needs in our basin."

**About Us:** The [South San Joaquin Irrigation District](#) was established in 1909 and is located in Manteca. It provides agricultural irrigation water to about 55,000 acres in Escalon, Ripon and Manteca. In 2005, the district expanded into providing domestic water service to selected cities within its territory. The [Oakdale Irrigation District](#) was created in 1909 and provides agricultural water to about 62,000 acres in northeastern Stanislaus County and southeastern San Joaquin County.

OID and SSJID hold senior water rights on the Stanislaus River. For more than 100 years, our agencies have responsibly delivered surface water to farms in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties, and for SSJID, thousands of homes in San Joaquin County. We are committed to sensible water policies, innovative irrigation techniques, prudent conservation practices, and important investments in biological studies of the river and fish habitat.

Save the Stan is a public education effort by SSJID and OID to inform Californians about the threat posed by increased flows on the Stanislaus River. For more information, go to [www.savethestan.org](http://www.savethestan.org) or our [Facebook page](#).