

From: Lionel Mares LionelM85@outlook.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Delta Council ISB DeltaCouncilISB@deltacouncil.ca.gov

Subject: Public Comment: Delta Independent Science Board Meeting - Agenda Item 3 & 4

Hello,

I would like my written public comment to be read to the Board out loud, please.

For **Agenda Item 3** (Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Impact Statement):

- The Draft EIS describes the purpose of this project as “to improve diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta to ensure the reliability of State Water Project (SWP) water deliveries south of the Delta.” This purpose is too narrow and limited and fails to account for the structural vulnerabilities and deficiencies in existing SWP infrastructure, including reliance on unsustainable water exports from the Delta.

For **Agenda Item 4** (Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement for the Voluntary Agreements):

- The Scientific Basis Report tries to rationalize that habitat can be substituted in place of increased flows to restore salmon abundance and native fish viability, but this assumption does not have scientific basis. Flows are vital to native fish viability.
- The Voluntary Agreement does not include provisions to improve water temperature impacts. The Board's 2018 Framework proposed setting carryover storage targets for reservoirs in order to maintain cold water habitats.
- Moreover, the Scientific Basis Report does not establish target biological outcomes that will represent attainment of its own Viability Objective. Therefore it is not possible to determine whether the VA would attain even those targets and be successful by its own terms within its 8-year span.

Thank you,

Lionel Mares
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Sent from my iPhone