



March 7, 2016

Jim Provenza, Chair  
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy  
1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Dear Mr. Provenza,

Thank you for your February 2, 2016 email regarding the Concept Proposal to the Delta Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program submitted by Reclamation District 2035 (RD 2035). Your email stated that the District's project had been approved to submit a full proposal by March 15, 2016 in order to receive the requested \$2,000,000 in grant funds.

As you know, both RD 2035 and the Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency (WDCWA) are partners in the ongoing Joint Intake and Fish Screen Project (Project). The grant funds to be awarded by the Conservancy for the Project are to meet a substantial part of the state's cost share. However, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has recently awarded RD 2035 the entire remaining state cost share of \$8,128,621 needed to complete the Project. As a result, RD 2035 will not be submitting a full proposal to pursue funding from the Conservancy.

Both RD 2035 and WDCWA are very grateful to the Conservancy for its commitment to this important fish screen project. The agencies are certain that forgoing the \$2,000,000 grant will allow the Conservancy to fund other worthwhile projects in the region that otherwise would have gone unfunded. Both RD 2305 and WDCWA look forward to our continuing relationship with the Conservancy.

Thank you again for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Thomas".

Robert Thomas  
Board President  
Reclamation District 2035

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis M. Diemer".

Dennis Diemer  
General Manager  
Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency

Cc: Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy  
Laura Jensen, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

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Fax (707) 784-6665

675 Texas Street, Suite 6500  
Fairfield, CA 94533-6342  
<http://www.co.solano.ca.us>

February 4, 2016

Delta Conservancy  
1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

### **SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR ECOSYSTEM AND LAND USE PLANNING STUDY FOR THE CACHE SLOUGH REGION**

Chair Provenza and Members of the Delta Conservancy Board:

On January 12, 2016, the Solano County Board of Supervisors received a report on Delta Conservancy Board deliberations regarding potential allocation of Proposition 1 funding to support the study of ecosystem restoration opportunities in the Cache Slough region. Your staff has proposed that the Conservancy include funding for the County to lead a study of land use, agricultural sustainability, and water supply in the region as a companion to and concurrent with the overall study. The Board of Supervisors strongly supports this request. We believe that the multi-dimensional nature of the study is essential to better understanding the potential for restoration in the Cache Slough area and its likely impacts, including potential conflicts with agriculture designated by the County's General Plan for the region.

The land use and agricultural sustainability study described above — and the funding to accomplish it — will be critical to understanding the competing land uses in the region. It will also help us develop strategies by which existing land uses and proposed new ones, such as ecosystem restoration, can co-exist compatibly. We know that the State and Federal governments have a great deal of interest in ecosystem restoration in this area and we see the proposed study as an opportunity to develop a critical baseline of information that will better inform future restoration activity.

While the County supports improved Delta ecological health and overall restoration efforts, we firmly believe that ecosystem planning in this region should not occur in a piecemeal fashion. Patchwork restorations will not only create less valuable habitat, but will also result in significant negative impacts on the County, including revenue losses and increased service costs. The State and Federal governments should prioritize moving forward quickly with this study, in order to better inform how future projects are planned and implemented.

A collaborative, multi-objective, and multi-jurisdictional approach is a foundational component to successful ecosystem planning and project implementation in the Delta. Solano County believes that this study will be essential to informing these efforts and achieving our mutual goals in the region. We appreciate your consideration of this proposal, and look forward to working collaboratively with the Conservancy on this matter of great shared interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erin Hannigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Erin" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Hannigan".

Erin Hannigan, Chairwoman  
Board of Supervisors

cc: John Laird, Secretary, California Resources Agency  
Kris Tjernell, California Resources Agency  
David Okita, California Resources Agency  
Board Members, Reclamation District 2068  
Members, Solano County Board of Supervisors  
Birgitta Corsello, County Administrator  
Jim Allan, Agricultural Commissioner  
Members, Agriculture Advisory Committee  
Clerk of the Board

**From:** Ryan.Wulff@noaa.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 1:09 PM  
**To:** Jim.provenza@yolocounty.org; Ingram, Campbell@SSJDC  
**Cc:** Rea, Maria@NOAA; Brian.Ellrott@noaa.gov; ambrose, charlotte@noaa.gov; Azimi-Gaylon, Shakoora@SSJDC  
**Subject:** NMFS comments regarding Delta Conservancy Prop 1 Concept Proposals

This email is sent on behalf of Maria Rea, Assistant Regional Administrator, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region, CA Central Valley Area Office:

Dear Delta Conservancy Board Chair Jim Provenza and Executive Officer Campbell Ingram:

Unfortunately, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will not be able to have a representative at tomorrow's Board Meeting on my behalf. Therefore, I am writing to express NMFS' support for the Delta Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality grant program and its focus on the California Water Action Plan's objective to restore important species and habitat. Based on our review of the 14 concept proposals recommended by Delta Conservancy staff, five appear to best line up with the grant program's focus and our Central Valley Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan). The following five proposed projects are largely consistent with the Recovery Plan, and one of them (Conservancy #011) is specifically recommended in the Recovery Plan.

San Joaquin River Levee Improvements and Channel Margin Habitat Project (Conservancy #011)  
Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project (Conservancy #009)  
Lower Marsh Creek and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning (Conservancy #019)  
Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Conservancy #005)  
Petersen Ranch Natural Lands Corridor (Conservancy #004)

We appreciate this opportunity to share our enthusiasm and support for these concept proposals, and we encourage the Delta Conservancy to select these concept proposals for the next step of full proposal submission.

We trust that the Conservancy will best use the \$9 million that has been allocated for fiscal year 2015-2016. If the Conservancy determines that the full \$9 million cannot be spent due to a lack of quality proposals, then we encourage the Conservancy to consider rolling over excess funds to future years. As this is the first year of the grant program, it is likely that proposals will be more numerous and robust in subsequent years.

I would appreciate if you could share these views with the Board tomorrow. Please feel free to contact Ryan Wulff, 916-307-9052 or [ryan.wulff@noaa.gov](mailto:ryan.wulff@noaa.gov), if you have any questions.

Regards,  
Maria

Maria Rea  
Assistant Regional Administrator, California Central Valley Office  
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 930-3600  
[Maria.Rea@noaa.gov](mailto:Maria.Rea@noaa.gov)