RESOLUTION NO. 2008-150

MULTI-COUNTY RESOLUTION ON WATER AND DELTA RELATED ISSUES

This Resolution is effective upon passage by the COUNTIES OF CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO, political subdivisions of the State of California (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the COUNTIES").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is at risk from many factors, and in addressing these threats the state may make large-scale changes to the Delta's legal boundaries and ecosystem, land use authority within the Delta, water conveyance through and around the Delta, water rights and water management statewide and many other aspects related to the Delta;

WHEREAS, the COUNTIES of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano and Yolo believe there is value in developing a coalition on issues concerning the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay/Delta Estuary; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTIES wish to collectively articulate the issues and interests from the perspective of the Delta region itself, from the people who call the Delta home and perhaps best understand the tremendous resource the Delta represents;

WHEREAS, the COUNTIES have identified a need for joint action and advocacy in areas of mutual interest on Delta related issues; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTIES wish to educate and maintain positive working relationships with regional, state and federal governmental agencies and the public on Delta related issues; and

WHEREAS, through this Resolution, the COUNTIES have adopted a statement of basic principles describing their joint interests, which may be refined over time;

NOW THEREFORE, the COUNTIES agree that:
The COUNTIES adopt this Resolution for the purpose of articulating mutual interests on Delta issues. The COUNTIES resolve to work together to better understand Delta related issues from a regional perspective and to use their unified voice to advocate on behalf of local government in available forums at the federal and state levels. Our mutual interests are as follows.

Management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay/Delta Estuary must:

1. Protect and improve water quality and water quantity in the Delta region and maintain appropriate Delta outflow for a healthy estuary;
2. Protect the existing water right priority system and legislative protections established for the Delta;
3. Respect and safeguard Delta Counties' responsibilities related to land use, water resources, flood management, tax revenues, public health and safety, economic development, agricultural stability, recreation, and environmental protection in any new Delta governance structures;

4. Represent and include local government in any new governance structures for the Delta;
5. Protect the economic viability of agriculture and the ongoing vitality of communities in the Delta;
6. Support rehabilitation, improvement and maintenance of levees throughout the Delta;
7. Support the Delta pool concept; in which the common resource provides quality freshwater supply to all delta users, requiring mutual responsibility to maintain, restore and protect the common resource;
8. Support immediate improvements to through-Delta conveyance;
9. Require that any water conveyance plan for the Delta be aligned with the principles established by this resolution and supported by clearly demonstrated improvement to the entire state's water management;
10. Protect and restore the Delta ecosystem, including adequate water supply and quality to support it in perpetuity; and
11. Include the study of storage options and implementation of conservation, recycling, re-use, and regional self sufficiency as part of a state-wide improved flood management and water supply system.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2008

JOHN F. SILVA, Chairman
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
Michael D. Johnson, Clerk
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: Myra Chiula, deputy
Patricia J. Crittenden, Chief Deputy Clerk