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March 30, 2010

Karen Scarborough, Undersecretary California Natural Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suit 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Local Issues Group

Dear Ms. Scarborough:

Butte County and the northern Sacramento Valley region have an interest in the overall health and stewardship of the Delta and the outcome of the BDCP process. The northern Sacramento Valley region is the Area of Origin for much of the water that flows through the Delta and therefore, our region is a major source for California's overall water supply picture. Our surface water resources include the crown jewel of the State Water Project (SWP) located at Lake Oroville, as well as a network of creeks and rivers that are tributary to the great Sacramento River which feeds into the Delta. Our region's water resources are more than the water supply for the Delta and the state. They provide the life blood for our agricultural-based communities, economy and environment. Much of our local water supply comes from the various groundwater basins throughout the region that are recharged through these creek and rivers.

The BDCP process offers a great opportunity to remedy many of the challenges facing the Delta ecosystem and uncertainty over the state's water supply system. Balanced against those benefits is the potential that the BDCP effort could result in unintended impacts to Butte County and much of the northern Sacramento Valley region. Based on the significance of the BDCP, Butte County requests that the BDCP Steering Committee form a local issues group for the northern Sacramento Valley region. Such a step will enhance the dialogue between the BDCP program and upstream interests.

We understand the challenges facing the Delta and the importance of a successful BDCP. Equally, I hope you understand our legitimate concerns over the potential impacts to upstream areas and our sincere desire

to play a constructive role in the BDCP process. I look forward to your acceptance of our recommendation that the BDCP Steering Committee establish a local issues group for the northern Sacramento Valley region in order to provide meaningful and constructive input into the BDCP process. Please contact Mr. Gosselin Director of the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation by phone at (530) 538-4343 and by email at pgosselin@buttecounty.net.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Connelly

Bill Connelly, Chair Butte County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Paul Gosselin, Butte County