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## **State Water Contractors Response to Presentation of Proposed Voluntary Settlement Agreements for the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary**

**Sacramento, CA** – In coordination with several public water agencies throughout the San Joaquin-Sacramento Bay-Delta, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the State Water Contractors are pleased that we have successfully outlined a [proposal for voluntary agreements](#) for several tributaries and the Delta.

The proposal is a critical step towards better species management that relies on the integration of flow and habitat measures along with new funding to meet species needs. The proposal was coordinated among the many water users and other stakeholders throughout the system. These agreements establish how funding for habitat and water will be secured and used, how science will be used to inform decision-making and adjustments over time to benefit species and ecosystem functions. The agreements also lay out a suite of initial actions that provide immediate environmental benefits.

“The proposal represents a landmark change in species management that guarantees funding for dozens of important habitat projects, provides substantial flow for the environment, and paves the way to a more sustainable future, meeting the state’s co-equal goals of providing water reliability and increased protections for our environment. We believe that a collaborative, voluntary approach that can be implemented as soon as next year is far superior to a top-down regulatory approach that could end up in court for years.”

**Jennifer Pierre**  
**General Manager**  
**State Water Contractors**

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*The State Water Contractors is a statewide, non-profit association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project. Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural land. For more information on the State Water Contractors, please visit [www.swc.org](http://www.swc.org).*