



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**SWC STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND STUDY
ON WASTEWATER DISCHARGES AND IMPACTS ON ENDANGERED FISH SPECIES**

“This study appears to advance dramatically our understanding of what is ailing the Delta. It opens an important new discussion on how to better manage the nutrients and pollutants discharged into the Delta so that the chain reaction doesn’t crash the food web on which fish depend. There are still many questions to answer, but we may have turned a corner. This study reinforces the need for the comprehensive approach emerging via the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and debunks the notion that focusing only on restricting water supplies for the California economy will solve this problem. The problem lies at the very bottom of the food web, which is within our ability to manage through careful regulation of discharges into the estuary.

To date, the primary action that has been taken to address the ecosystem collapse has been restricting water supply exports from the Delta. Since January, public water agencies have lost more than 800,000 acre-feet of water due to new restrictions – enough to serve 6.4 million people for one year. This study reinforces how additional restrictions on water exports from the Delta will not provide for the recovery of the fish species. All the stressors harming the Delta need to be addressed.”

**Laura King Moon
Assistant General Manager
State Water Contractors**

Twenty-five million people, three million acres of farmland and businesses throughout California depend on the Delta for water supplies. Public water agencies, environmental organizations and state and federal agencies are working together to develop a long-term solution. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), a comprehensive conservation plan for the Delta, will provide a basis for addressing the many threats to the Delta needed for fishery and ecosystem recovery, while finding a way to continue to deliver water to Californians throughout the state. For more information, please visit www.baydeltaconservationplan.org.

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 lands. SWC was among the under-writers of this independent research. For more information on the State Water Contractors, please visit www.swc.org.