

RESOLUTION 03-17

IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES' POLICY STATEMENT ON BAY-DELTA FLOW REQUIREMENTS.

WHEREAS, California is facing a defining moment in water policy that will be substantially impacted by the State Water Resources Control Board's approach to water quality objectives under the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Board has the responsibility for updating the Bay-Delta Plan in a manner that establishes water quality objectives that ensure the reasonable protection of all beneficial uses of water in a way that is consistent with the coequal goals of improving water supply reliability and protecting, restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem and with respect to the commitments made in the California Water Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Board staff's current proposal, which focuses singularly on an "unimpaired flow" approach, is irreconcilable with a policy of coequal goals of improving both water supply reliability and ecosystem health; it is also inconsistent with the broader water policy objectives of the Brown Administration; and

WHEREAS, the ACWA Board of Directors has unanimously adopted a strong policy statement which calls for a better approach that can more effectively achieve ecological objectives while maintaining water supply reliability. The statement calls on the State Water Board to set aside its "unimpaired flow" approach and heed Gov. Jerry Brown's call for negotiated agreements, which have been successful on many rivers and tributaries in California.

WHEREAS, the ACWA statement notes that to be successful, the state's flow policy must be consistent with the principles of collaboration, comprehensive solutions, science, functional flows, economic considerations, consistency with state policy, and leadership; and


WHEREAS, California's local urban and agricultural water managers are united in their vision for a future that includes a vibrant California economy as well as healthy ecosystems and fish populations, and believe that vision is best achieved through a comprehensive, collaborative approaches;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Rio Alto Water District hereby supports ACWA's Policy Statement on Bay-Delta Flows and encourages the State Water Resources Control Board to embrace the approach articulated in ACWA's policy statement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rio Alto Water District held on April 19, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSTAINING: 0
ABSENT: 0

Signed and approved after its passage this 19th day of April 2017.



Mark Reese, President, Board of Directors



Terri Taggart, Secretary