

## **California Sportfishing Protection Alliance**

"An Advocate for Fisheries, Habitat and Water Quality"
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29 January 2009

Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board Executive Office
State Water Resources Control Board
Cal/EPA Headquarters
1001 "I" Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-2828
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Comment Letter – 02/03/09 Board Meeting, JPOD Petitions for Reconsideration Draft

VIA: Electronic Submission

Hardcopy if Requested

Order

RE:

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The California Sportfishing Protection (CSPA) has reviewed the State Water Board's Draft Order Denying Petitions for Reconsideration. We incorporate by reference the 29 January 2009 comments by the South Delta Water Agency.

Frankly, to issue a "secret decision," without benefit of public review, allowing the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to use the Joint Point of Diversion (JPOD) while Delta water quality standards are violated and then delay consideration of the CSPA and South Delta Water Agency petitions of reconsideration until the "changes" expired and the issue became moot is simply reprehensible. It is yet another poster child of the Board's abdication of its statutory responsibility to protect water quality and beneficial uses in the Delta.

Should the Bureau and DWR again request the use of JPOD while standards are violated during 2009, CSPA expects the Board to avoid backroom orders and ensure that a timely public process is conducted. Please be advised, "mootness" will not be an issue if this fiasco is repeated.

Thank you for considering these comments. If you have questions or require clarification, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Bill Jennings, Executive Director

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance