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February 14, 2006

Napa County Board of Supervisors
1195 Third Street Room 310
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Subject: Request to support and partner with Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) on grant proposal to CALFED Watershed Program

Proposed Project Partners: Napa RCD, WICC, WICC TAC, DHI, Inc., MIG, Inc.

Dear Board of Supervisors:

The Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board is supportive of and would like to participate in the Napa County Resource Conservation District's (RCD) proposal to the CALFED Watershed Program, entitled *Water for Fish and Farms* (WFF). The goals of WFF are 1) to improve the timing of water withdrawals in selected tributaries of the Napa River to benefit steelhead and/or Chinook salmon without negatively impacting other beneficial uses and 2) to provide greater scientific understanding about the relationships between water use and stream flow. As proposed, the WFF proposal will combine the experience and knowledge of the RCD, the WICC, the WICC's Technical Advisory Committee, Danish Hydraulic Institute (DHI), and Moore, Iacofano and Goltsman (MIG) to improve the ability of local land and water practitioners to make informed decisions about the timing and use of water diverted from streams that support steelhead and/or Chinook salmon.

Major tasks of the WFF program include:

- Formation and coordination of a technical and community advisory committee;
- Installation and operation of real-time telemetric streamgaging stations in select tributaries of the Napa River;
- Information dissemination to land/water management practitioners and others; and
- Use of hydrologic modeling to test hypotheses regarding stream flow and water use.

WFF will build upon and enhance several on-going watershed efforts. WFF will add six new telemetric streamgages to the RCD's existing network of streamgaging stations, will enhance the capability and appeal of the WICC WebCenter by offering real-time stream flow data to the public, will expand recent baseline hydrologic modeling assessments completed by DHI, Inc. as a part of Napa County's Baseline Data Report (BDR), and will increase local capacity to further operate and refine the baseline hydrologic model for future project use.

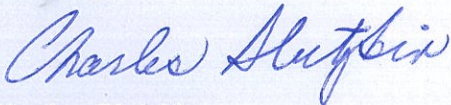
The WICC Board unanimously voiced support for the WFF proposal at their January 26, 2006 meeting and recommended that the County Board of Supervisor's offer their support as well. Additionally, should the proposal be awarded funding, the WICC Board would like to request the Supervisor's approval to participate in the WFF program in the following ways:

- 1) Participate in the technical and community advisory committee through involvement of individual WICC Board members and members of the WICC's Technical Advisory Committee;
- 2) Contribute and facilitate the enhancement of the WICC WebCenter to provide "real-time" stream flow data; and
- 3) Provide review of hydrologic modeling efforts.

The goals of WFF are well aligned with the mission of the WICC Board, which is to guide and support community efforts to maintain and improve the health of Napa County's watersheds. The proposed project supports the County's efforts to foster watershed-based assessments that will lead to improved watershed management practices and address a resource issues which has been identified as influencing native fish populations in the Napa River watershed.

The WICC Board is supportive of WFF work program, recommends the Supervisor's favorable support of the proposal, and requests that the Board of Supervisors approved of the WICC's desire to actively participate in the project.

Sincerely,



Charles Slutzkin
Chair, Watershed Information Center
& Conservancy Board of Napa County