July 27, 2016

The Delta Caucus is comprised of the five Delta County Farm Bureaus -- Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo. In 2008, these five Delta County Farm Bureaus joined to form the Delta Caucus with the goal of protecting and promoting the viability and sustainability of Delta agriculture. Agriculture is the main economy in the Delta and food production is deeply woven into the fabric of the community with many incidental businesses in the region supported by crop production. Because agriculture is so essential to the Delta, we have expressed concerns regarding the CA WaterFix and the effects it may have on water quality, the amount of prime agriculture lost to construction and mitigation, and how this will affect the Delta community, economically or otherwise.

The Delta Caucus opposes the CA WaterFix and the related twin tunnels project for the following reasons:

1. Inconsistencies with laws and regulations protecting Delta agriculture resources.
2. Collective impacts of the CA WaterFix on Delta agriculture resources.
3. Unidentified impacts.
4. Inadequate analysis of proposed mitigation.
5. Inadequate study of alternatives.

The CA WaterFix will devastate the Delta. The twin tunnels project will not make California’s water supply more reliable, will not restore the Delta environment and will not reduce reliance on the Delta. The twin tunnels project will damage Delta resources to include agriculture and will waste valuable resources which could be employed to implement projects to advance water reliability for California – projects that impact the supply/demand equation by reducing demand and increasing supply. The Delta Caucus believes that there are more efficient and effective ways to improve water reliability for California and improve conditions in the Delta and remains committed to ensuring that Delta agriculture resources are protected and enhanced in accordance with the Delta Reform Act of 2009.