



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 26, 2008

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### **Coalition Releases Video Presentation About What Ails the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – The [Coalition for a Sustainable Delta](http://www.sustainabledelta.com) today officially released a new video PowerPoint presentation documenting multiple factors which are negatively impacting the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The video is available to watch and download from the coalition's website, [www.sustainabledelta.com](http://www.sustainabledelta.com).

The video is designed to provide elected officials, regulators, journalists and the public an educational tool to better understand increasingly complex Bay-Delta water issues and to highlight some of the many stressors and man-made pressures that impact the estuary.

“For too long the primary focus of the Delta’s plight has been the state and federal pumping facilities that convey water to 25 million residents and three million acres of prime agricultural farmland,” said Michael Boccadoro, spokesperson for the coalition. “The video presentation documents the long and growing list of other factors which are combining to stress the estuary and its fisheries. Unless and until the other factors are addressed we are unlikely to see the health of this important estuary improve.”

The video documents and discusses the growing list of other factors impacting the estuary including:

- Rapid population growth and increasing local water demand and diversions;
- Expanding municipal wastewater discharges;
- Invasive species;
- Unscreened in-delta farm diversions;
- Toxic urban stormwater run-off;
- Agricultural discharges; and
- Industrial discharges.

The emerging scientific consensus is that these other factors are playing a large and expanding role in pushing the estuary to the brink of collapse. Yet regulators have failed to adequately address them and the courts have stepped in by dramatically curtailing delta pumping operations. Recent action by the California Department of Fish and Game to protect the Longfin smelt are expected to expand pumping restrictions, further impacting the ability to convey water to millions of users in the Bay Area, Central Valley and Southern California.

“Unfortunately, some stakeholders want to simplify the problem and focus only on curtailing water conveyance. It is not that simple and until regulators apply the same scrutiny toward addressing the myriad of other stressors, the estuary will continue its downward spiral,” said Boccadoro.

The video is part of a comprehensive effort by the [Coalition for a Sustainable Delta](http://www.sustainabledelta.com) to highlight and address the problems that are impacting the Delta. The coalition recently filed a lawsuit that focuses on violations of the Endangered Species Act by the California Department of Fish and Game for its ongoing programs to support the striped bass, an invasive species and well known voracious predator of the Delta smelt and other threatened or endangered species. The coalition is also undertaking an extensive research program with some of the nation’s leading scientific researchers and academics to better understand the root causes of the estuary’s decline.

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**For more information, visit [www.sustainabledelta.com](http://www.sustainabledelta.com)**

*The Coalition for a Sustainable Delta is an ad hoc group of water users who depend on conveyance through the delta for a large portion of their water supplies. The Coalition is dedicated to protecting the delta and is committed to promoting a strategy to ensure its sustainability.*

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