



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

June 30, 2022

Sona Chilingaryan, Acting Assistant Director
Tribal and State Assistance Branch, Water Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Dear Sona,

I am writing to inform you that Headquarters concurs with Region 9's certification that the San Francisco Estuary Partnership's (SFEP) updated Estuary Blueprint (CCMP) has fulfilled all EPA requirements in the CCMP update content checklist, incorporated all relevant comments, and has been approved by the SFEP Implementation Committee and the Executive Council. This updated CCMP is now the official final version.

The thoroughness of the submission documentation greatly simplified the review process. We appreciate SFEP's receptiveness and responsiveness to take comments into consideration and respond to our input. Their cooperation greatly helped the process.

I want to recognize the leadership shown by Luisa Valiela, Region 9 SFEP Coordinator, in her close collaboration with our HQ Coordinator for SFEP, Vince Bacalan. Their effective working relationship ensured an excellent final outcome and enabled us to avoid any concerns late in the process.

With this concurrence, the 2022 Estuary Blueprint with its associated content checklist and the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment are officially considered final for the record. They will be placed in our files along with the certification document you provided.

When you notify the SFEP Director, Caitlin Sweeney, that EPA HQ signs off on their updated Estuary Blueprint along with the Vulnerability Assessment and considers them to be final, please extend the HQ team's appreciation and congratulations on a job well done.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lerner, Chief
Partnership Programs Branch
Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

cc: Brian Frazer
Luisa Valiela
Vince Bacalan