

*South Delta Water Agency and Central Delta Water Agency
Presentation to*

Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force

October 25, 2007

Progress Report on

A Comprehensive Water Management Plan

for addressing Delta and State Water
related issues

--This Plan reflects South Delta Water Agency and Central Delta Water Agency's ongoing efforts and is based upon materials previously presented to the Blue Ribbon Task Force, including the *Water Plan for the 21st Century*, and the *Delta Corridors* proposal.

The Delta Vision process:

“ . . . is intended to identify a strategy for managing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as a sustainable ecosystem that would continue to support environmental and economic functions that are critical to the people of California.”

from Delta Vision Web Page

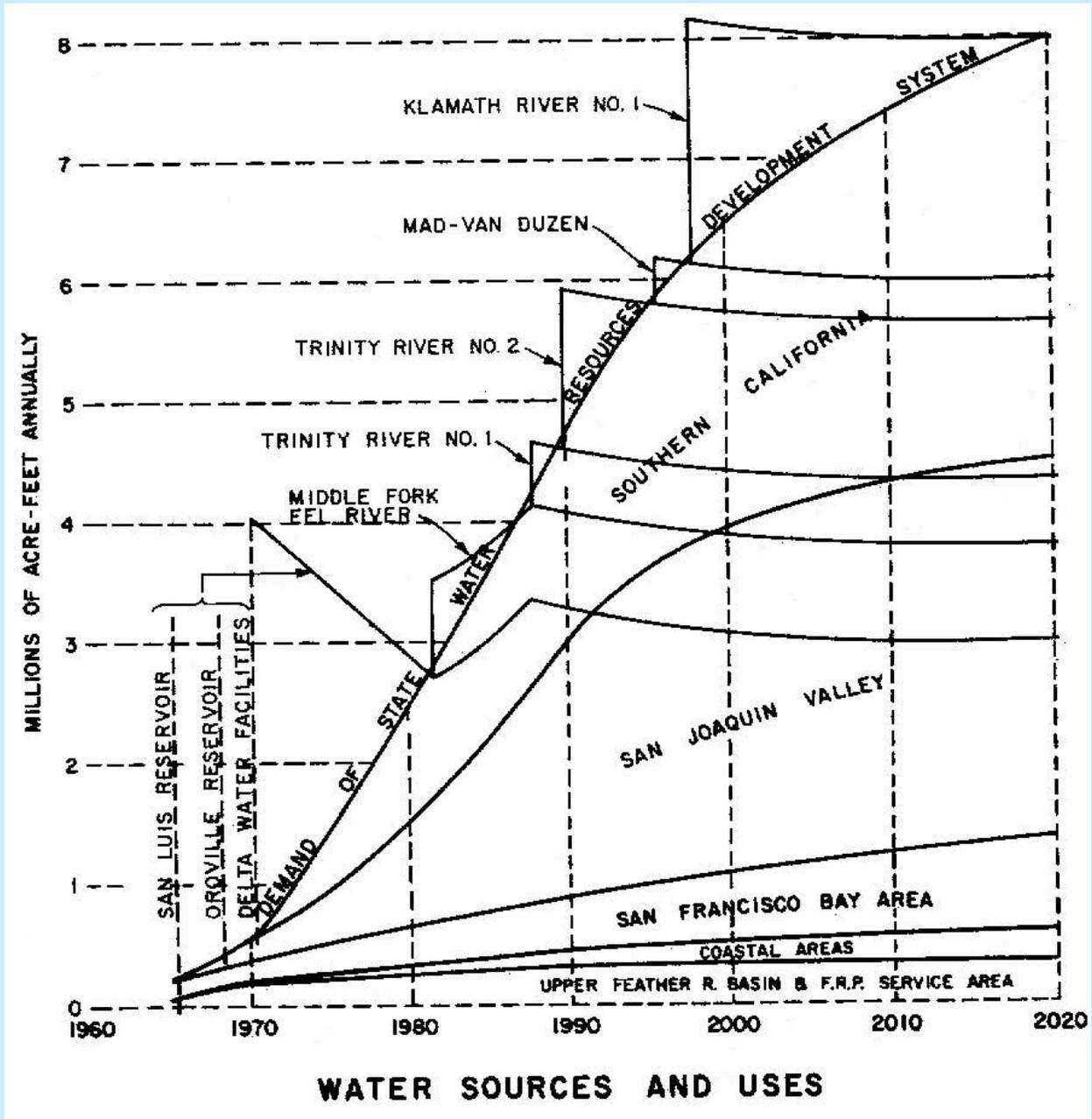
The *Comprehensive Water Management Plan* addresses six issues relating to the Delta:

- * *Regional Self-Sufficiency*
- * *Flood Protection*
- * *Catastrophic Events*
- * *In-Delta Needs*
- * *Fishery-Ecosystem Needs*
- * *Water Supply Reliability*

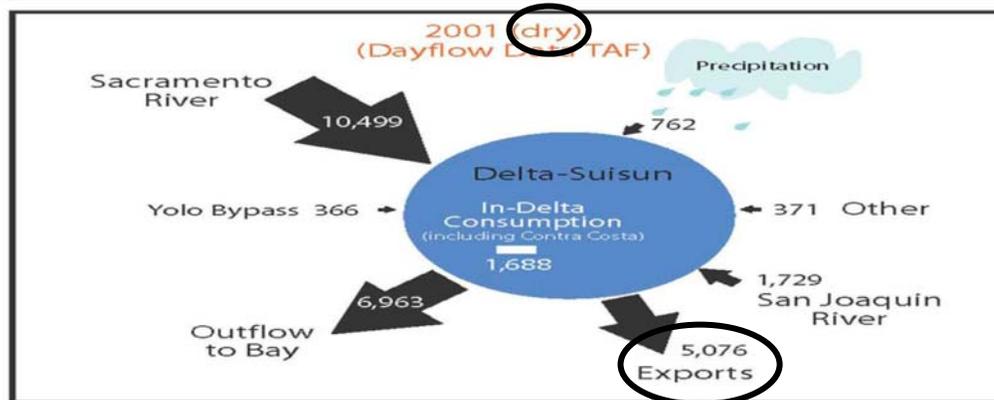
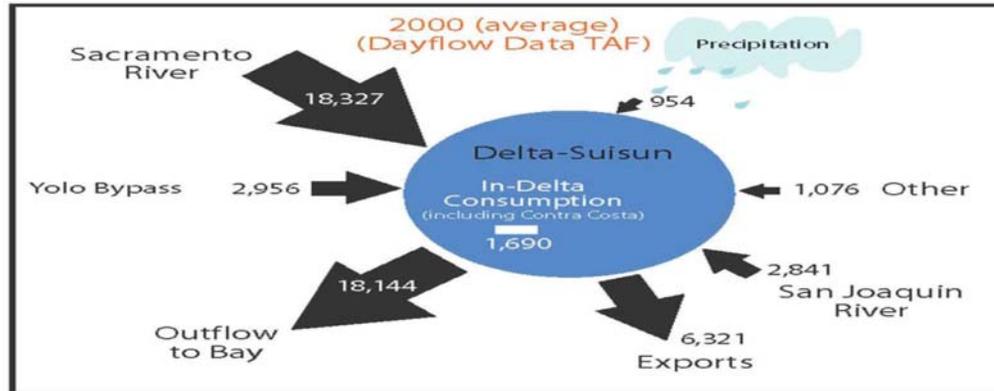
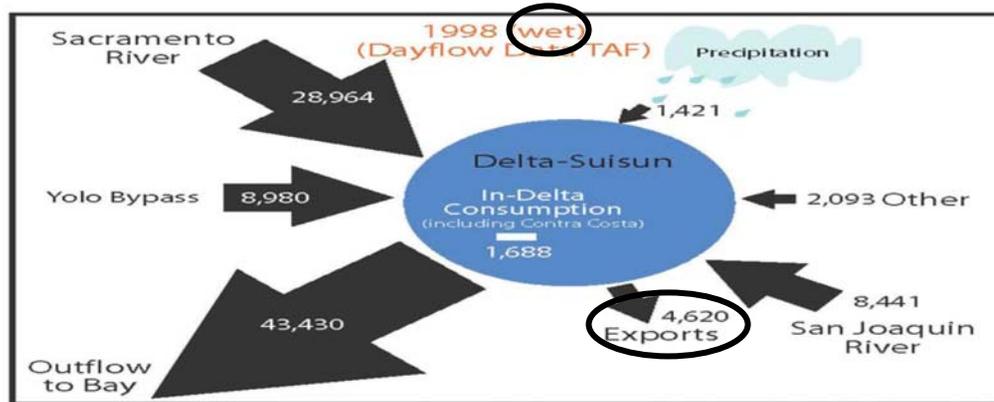
Regional Self-Sufficiency

What: Each region should rely less on imports and have an alternate supply for use in “dry times.”

Why: Upstream use is increasing, in-Delta needs are increasing, and SWP supply was never fully developed.



Water Balance in Delta by water year type



Regional Self-Sufficiency

What: Each region should rely less on imports and have an alternate supply for use in “dry times.”

Why: Upstream use is increasing, in-Delta needs are increasing, and SWP supply was never fully developed.

How: Develop new water supplies through capture and storage of flood flows, conjunctive use, desalination, reuse and recycling, etc. Structure export systems to operate with less water exported during drier years, more in wetter years.

Flood Protection

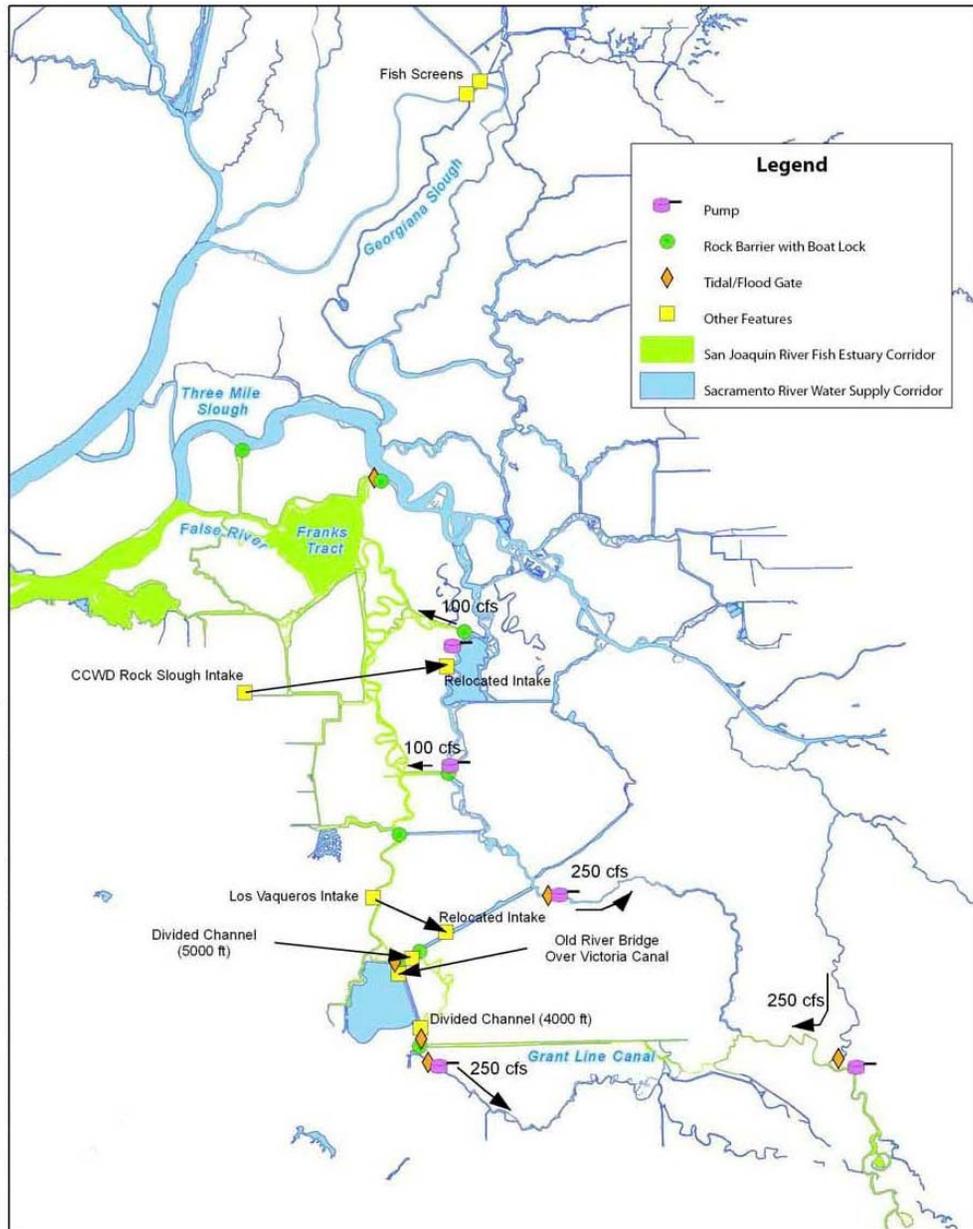
- What:* Insure reservoir operations, channel capacities, and designated flood plains can handle anticipated flood events.
- Why:* Health and safety, property, and the environment are at risk when the flood control system does not operate as designed.
- How:* Manage reservoir operations to decrease peak releases, insure channel capacities are maintained, improve non-project ag levees to PL 84-99 standard, improve ag project levees to design standards, and increase urban levee protection to 200 year level (per SB 5). Redesign system to be flexible enough for climate change impacts.

Catastrophic Events

What: Decrease likelihood and minimize impacts of catastrophic levee failure due to seismic events.

Why: Catastrophic levee failure would harm in-Delta property and infrastructure, destroy habitat, and interrupt export supplies.

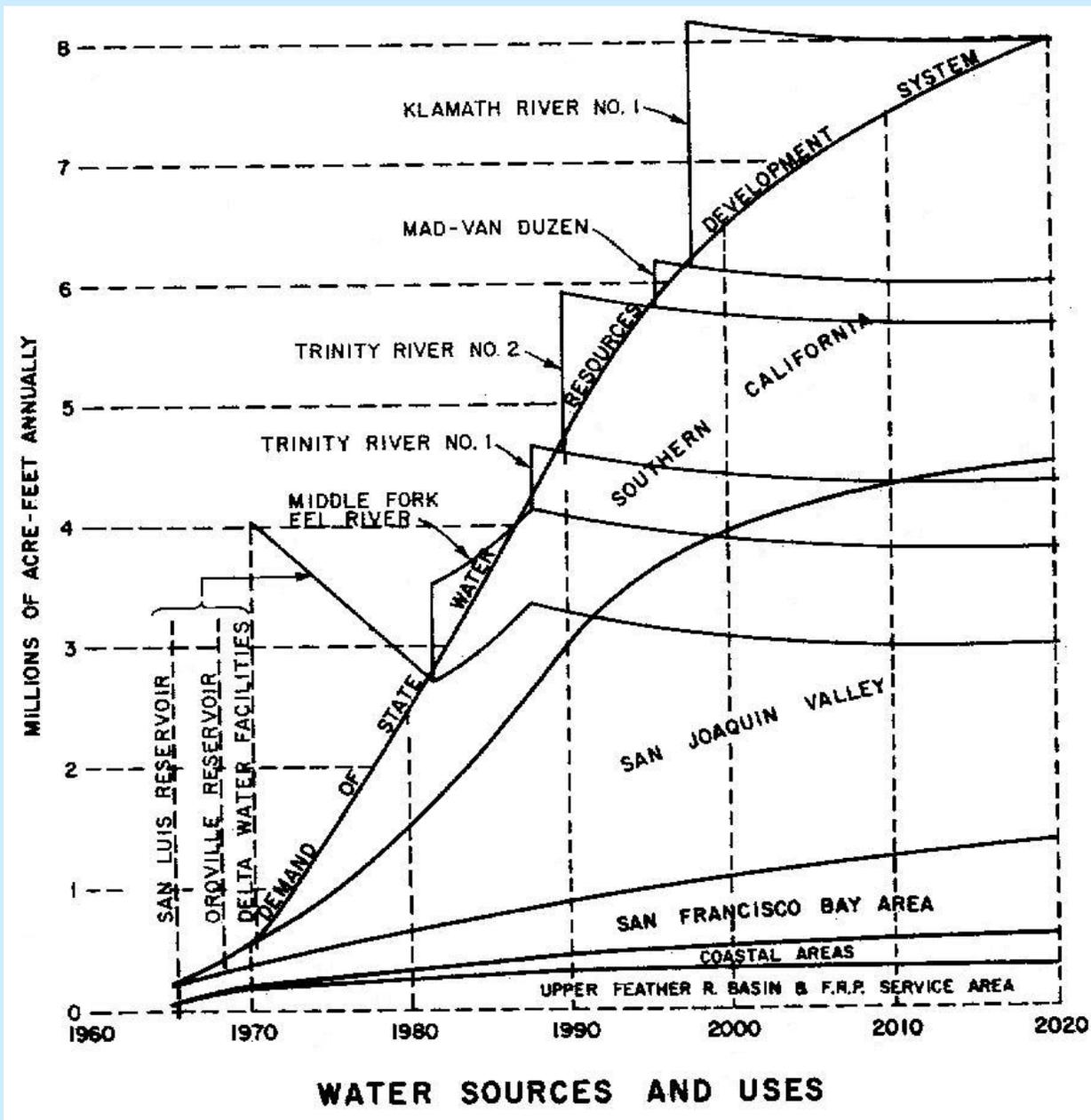
How: Improve ag levees, provide emergency response and repair for prompt recovery after catastrophic event, evaluate modified Delta Corridors as alternative to armored Middle River Emergency Response Plan, maintain emergency response supplies and funding, protect infrastructure, and evaluate other options to address lesser events.



In-Delta Needs

What: Insure preservation and growth of in-Delta agriculture, recreation, and public trust needs.

Why: Watershed protection statutes and the Delta Protection Act require that in-Delta needs have priority rights and are protected. Maintenance of local agriculture and related economy is basis of system which maintains levees.



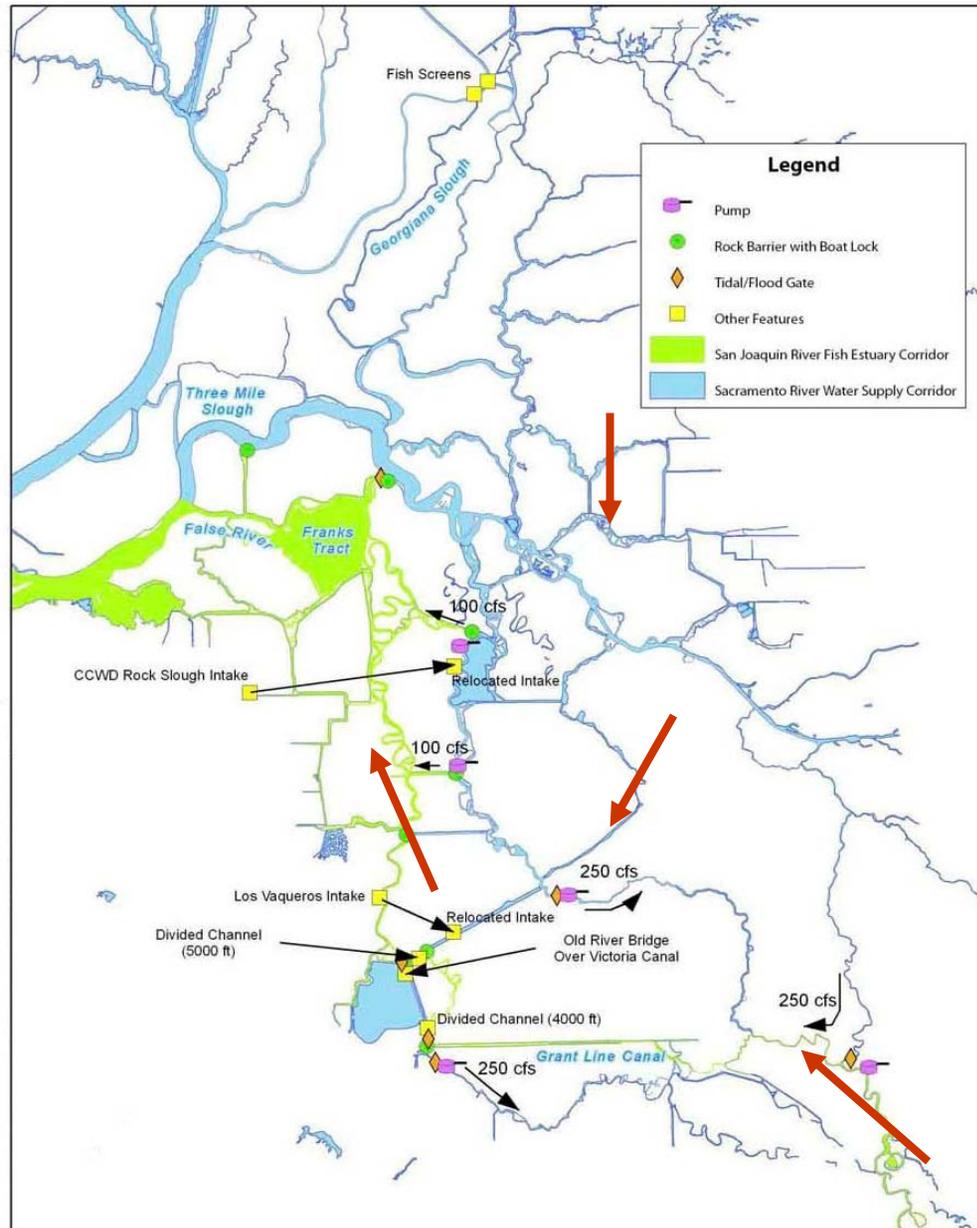
“Further increase in water use in areas tributary to the Delta will worsen the salinity incursion problem and complicate the already complex water rights situation. To maintain and expand the economy of the Delta, it will be necessary to provide an adequate supply of good quality water and protect the lands from the effects of salinity incursion. ***In 1959 the State Legislature directed that water shall not be diverted from the Delta for use elsewhere unless adequate supplies for the Delta are first provided.***”

In-Delta Needs

What: Insure preservation and growth of in-Delta agriculture, recreation, and public trust needs.

Why: Watershed protection statutes and the Delta Protection Act require that in-Delta needs have priority rights and are protected. Maintenance of local agriculture and related economy is basis of system which maintains levees.

How: Implement modified Delta Corridors proposal to maintain adequate flows of good quality water in all channels. Implement flood protection measures, including evaluation of master levee system to address sea level rise, exports limited to only water which is surplus to in-Delta needs (Water Code section 12204).



Fishery/Ecosystem Restoration

What: Address the decline of pelagic organisms, improve other fisheries, maintain adequate habitat and flows for a healthy ecosystem, and minimize effects of export pumping.

Why: Fisheries in crisis, species nearing extinction, public trust needs not being met, five million acre-feet of Delta supply never developed.

“While the standards in this decision approach without project levels of protection for striped bass, there are many other species, such as white catfish, shad and salmon, which would not be protected to this level. ***To provide full mitigation of project impacts on all fishery species now would require the virtual shutting down of the project export pumps. . . .***”

D-1485, State Water Resources Control Board

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Why: Fisheries in crisis, species nearing extinction, public trust needs not being met, five million acre-feet of Delta supply never developed.

How: Implement modified Delta Corridors to minimize fish at export pumps, reduce exports in drier times and when fisheries impacted, restore historical fishery habitat in Suisun Bay and far western Delta, and increase outflow.

Water Supply Reliability

What: Provide appropriate reliability for all users of Delta waters.

Why: Statutory priorities are not being followed. Export interests seek dependable supply.

Section 12001. Necessity of maintenance of water supply

The Legislature finds that the maintenance of an adequate water supply in the Delta sufficient to maintain and expand agriculture, industry, urban, and recreational development in the Delta area as set forth in Section 12220, Chapter 2, of this part, and to provide a common source of fresh water for export to areas of water deficiency is necessary to the peace, health, safety and welfare of the people of the State, except that delivery of such water shall be subject to the provisions of Section 10505 and Sections 11460 to 11463, inclusive, of this code.

Section 12202. Salinity control and adequate water supply; substitute water supply; delivery

Among the functions to be provided by the State Water Resources Development System, in coordination with the activities of the United States in providing salinity control for the Delta through operation of the Federal Central Valley Project, shall be the provision of salinity control and an adequate water supply for the users of water in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. If it is determined to be in the public interest to provide a substitute water supply to the users in said Delta in lieu of that which would be provided as a result of salinity control no added financial burden shall be placed upon said Delta water users solely by virtue of such substitution. Delivery of said substitute water supply shall be subject to the provisions of Section 10505 and Sections 11460 to 114563, inclusive, of this code.

Section 12203. Diversion of water from channels of delta

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State that no person, corporation or public or private agency or the State or the United States should divert water from the channels of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to which the users within said Delta are entitled.

Section 12204. Exportation of water from delta

In determining the availability of water for export from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta no water shall be exported which is necessary to meet the requirements of Sections 12202 and 12203 of this chapter.

Section 12205. Storage of water; integration of operation and management of release of water

It is the policy of the State that the operation and management of releases from storage into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta of water for use outside the area in which such water originates shall be integrated to the maximum extent possible in order to permit the fulfillment of the objectives of this part.

The Delta Pool

“The coordinated use of surplus water in and tributary to the Delta and of regulated or imported supplements to this supply, as required, is referred to as the ***Delta Pooling Concept***. Under this concept of operation the State will ensure a continued supply of water adequate in quantity and quality to meet the needs of export water users. Advantage will be taken of surplus water available in the Delta, and as the demand for water increases and the available surplus supply is reduced by further upstream uses, the State will assume the responsibility of guaranteeing a firm supply of water, which will be accomplished by construction of additional storage facilities and import works. ***At the same time, the water needs of the Delta will be fully met.***”

Water Supply Reliability

What: Provide appropriate reliability for all users of Delta waters.

Why: Statutory priorities are not being followed. Export interests seek dependable supply.

How: Operate projects to mitigate their impacts on the system and follow statutory priorities, then calculate amount of water available for exports under “less in drier, more in wetter” principle. Develop new state-wide and local supplies to satisfy shortage between exports and needs.

Questions?