

California's Water

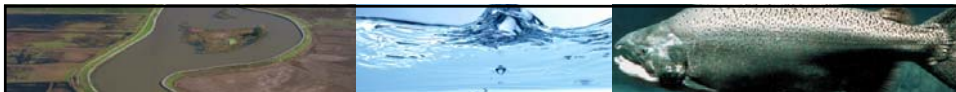
Sustainable Water Issues in California



October 28, 2010

WESTCAS 2010 Fall Conference

Timothy Quinn
Executive Director



About ACWA

Who We Are...

- Formed in 1910 by 5 agricultural irrigation districts
- Statewide, non-profit, non-partisan association
- About 450 public agency members
- Funded by voluntary dues from public water agency members





ACWA members responsible
for 90% of the state's
distributed water

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Headlines

CONTRA COSTA TIMES
SUNDAY, September 19, 2010
www.contracostatimes.com

Delta changes could prove irreversible
By Mike Taugher

The toxic blue-green algae floating in the scientist's jar is a symptom of a disturbing shift in the West Coast's biggest estuary.

Common in lakes and reservoirs around the world, this kind of algae is less likely to be found in

estuaries where rivers and ocean tides tangle in a restless ebb and flow.

But the slime has spread in an increasingly stagnant Delta.

After five years of studies, scientists are coalescing around the idea that diverting fresh water to farms and cities has led to a

CONTRA COSTA TIMES
WEDNESDAY, August 4, 2010
www.contracostatimes.com

State adopts plan for Delta flow
By Mike Taugher

A powerful state board on Tuesday for the first time adopted criteria defining how much water must flow through the Delta to

West Valley farmers last week were celebrating a reprieve from water pumping restrictions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Five days later, it's over.

A federal judge Wednesday rejected an emergency request by water diverters representing cities

and Valley farmers out of pumping it.

U.S. District Judge J. William W. King's ruling flows down the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

San Francisco Chronicle
Printed on recycled paper | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010 | sfgate.com

S.F., East Bay fear water rationing in future
By Wyatt Buchanan, Matthew Yi

San Francisco and East Bay water managers are warning that a plan to overhaul the state's water system could result in draconian restrictions

and rationing in the Bay Area and possibly undermine water rights that are more than 100 years old.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the East Bay Municipal Utility District, which

combined serve approximately 3.7 million people in the Bay Area, fear that in dry years they could be forced to give up water to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

The Fresno Bee
Web site and ads offer tips to help consumers save.
By E.J. Schmitt

SACRAMENTO — With California in the grip of a three-year drought, state officials Tuesday announced a multimillion-dollar media campaign that will ask residents to save water in every way possible.

Billboards, radio and TV will implore Californians to shorten showers, turn off faucets, check for plumbing leaks with only half laundry loads, back on lawn watering and use a broom instead of a hose to clean up.

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Union-Tribune
SAN DIEGO, CALIF. (UPI) —


Ecologist say unrestricted pumping will harm fish
The Associated Press

to push endangered had complained that

The Modesto Bee
THURSDAY, September 24, 2010
www.modobee.com


Water crisis rapidly approaching
California has a limited water supply. The population has already

In a few years we will have another 10 million Californians

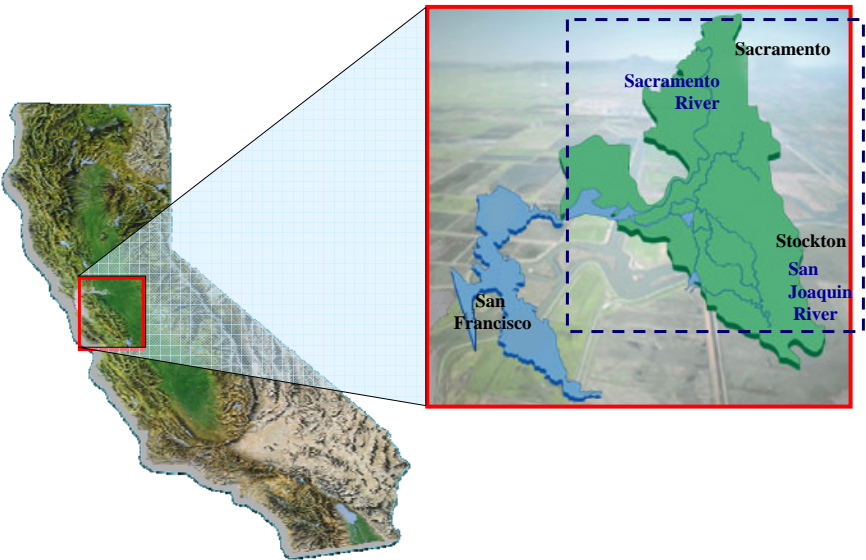


Key Issues

- Delta Crisis
- 2009 Comprehensive Legislative Water Package Implementation
- 2012 Water Bond
- Flows vs Water Reliability Assurances



The Delta – Vital to Economy, Environment



The map illustrates the location of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta within the state of California. The inset map provides a detailed view of the Delta region, showing the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River converging, and the cities of Sacramento, Stockton, and San Francisco. The Delta is highlighted in green, and the surrounding areas are shown in shades of blue and brown.





A Comprehensive State Policy for California's Water Future

Co-equal Goals

Delta Policy


- Governance
- Conveyance
- BDCP

Statewide Policy

- Storage
- Conservation
- Groundwater monitoring
- Water Rights

Finance







Elements of a Comprehensive Solution




**Local resource investment
for new water**



**Delta conveyance solutions to
stabilize reliability**



**Habitat and Watershed
restoration**



**Additional storage for
co-equal goals**



Finance: “Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012.” – \$11.14 Billion



Cogdill



Caballero

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY NOVEMBER 4, 2009
AMENDED IN SENATE NOVEMBER 2, 2009
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 SEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

SENATE BILL **No. 2**

Introduced by Senator Cogdill
(Principal author: Senator Hollingsworth)
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Bladesley and Caballero)
(Coauthors: Senators Cedillo and Flores)

October 27, 2009

An act to add Division 26.7 (commencing with Section 79700) to the Water Code, relating to a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 2, as amended, Cogdill, Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010—water quality control plan, 2010:
(1) Under existing law, various measures have been approved by the voters to provide funds for water supply and protection facilities and programs.
This bill would enact the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$0-\$90,000,000 \$11,140,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program.





Major Expenditure Categories for the Water Bond

$$\$11 = 4 + 4 + 3$$

- \$4 billion: Local Resource development
- \$4 billion: habitat and watersheds
- \$3 billion for storage for co-equal goals and other public benefits



Now We Know Where to Go...






Two Roads Before Us



Continue the
“water flows” war?



Implement a
comprehensive plan for
co-equality?



Bay Delta Conservation Plan

- **Statewide steering committee established in 2006**
 - state, federal agencies
 - water agency contractors
 - NGOs
- **Hundreds of meetings, \$150 million in studies**
- **Major decision in 2010**



Bay Delta Conservation Plan

- **Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Communities Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP)**
- **Embraces concept of co-equal goals**
 - Long-term regulatory assurances
 - Ecosystem recovery
 - Multi species / comprehensive tools

Economic Assurance ↔ **Commitment to Recovery**



Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Conservation Plan Elements

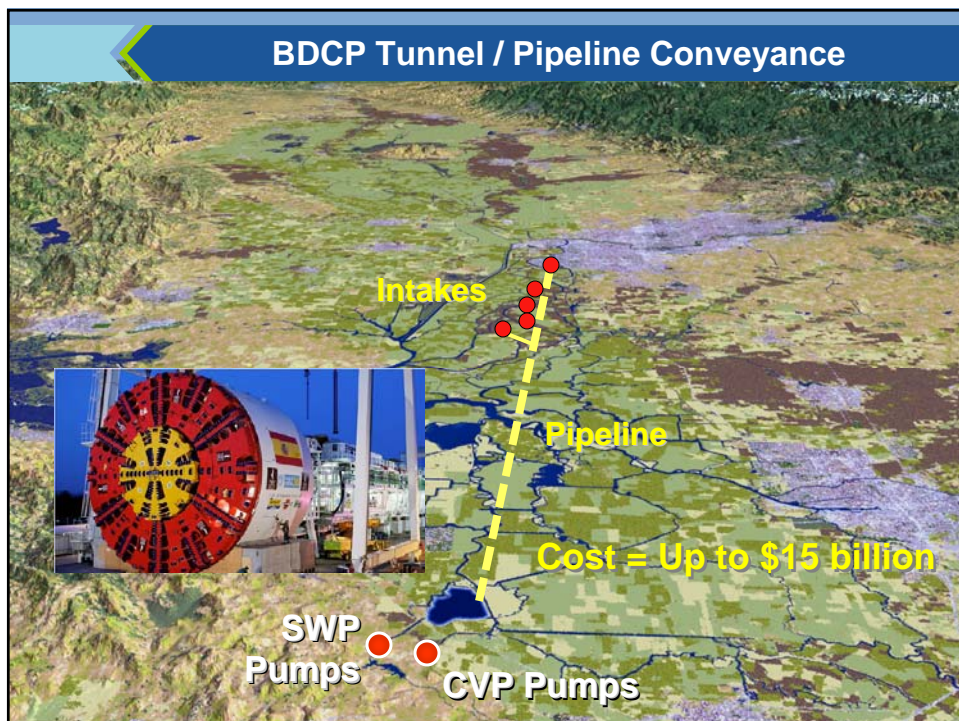
- “Conveyance” improvements
- Aquatic habitat restoration
- Other stressors



ESA Restrictions on SWP/CVP Operations



BDCP Tunnel / Pipeline Conveyance






Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Aquatic Habitat Restoration

Up to 80,000 of Habitat


- 65,000 acres tidal habitat
- 10,000 acres inundated floodplain
- 20 levee miles habitat enhancement
- 5,000 acres riparian forest
- 400 acres non-tidal marsh
- 200 acres vernal pool complex
- 2,000 acres grasslands
- Wildlife-friendly management (up to 30,000 acres)


Cost = up to \$6 billion



Getting to the Other Stressors

- Predation
- Fishing
- Invasive Species
- Ammonium loading
- Contaminants and pesticides





Continue the "Water Flows" War

- Interim Instream Flow Criteria Report
- Narrow scope, no balancing
- 75% of unimpaired Delta outflow Jan-Jun
- 75% of unimpaired Sac River inflow Nov-June
- 60% of unimpaired San Joaquin River inflow Feb-June
- Non binding...but life of its own

The Sacrament
Monday, May 10, 2010
Editorial: Finally, Delta's flows get needed attention
By Mark Wessert
 The State Water Resources Control Board last week issued a draft report that concluded what has long been obvious - extensive diversion of water, not expanding the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the fish that depend on its waters.

FAULT LINES
ANALYZING BY THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA INDEPENDENT MEDIA CENTER
State Board Adopts Flow Standards for Bay-Delta
Dan Bacher
August 3, 2010
 "The board just put the stake through the heart of the ecological goals of restoration and water supply, as defined by increased exports out of the Delta."
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Impacts of Flow Criteria

- **CATASTROPHIC!**
- 5-5.6 million acre-feet now in use, off limits
- Overall supply reduction of 70% from the Delta watershed
- Widespread Impacts










ASSURANCES IMPOSSIBLE



Two Roads Before Us




Continue the
“water flows” war?





Implement a
comprehensive plan for
co-equality?

Co-equal goals? Or Co-equal destruction?




Keeping the Wheels on the Bus





Investing in Environmental and Economic Sustainability

ACWA Policy Principles on Implementation of State and Federal Endangered Species Act



“Federal defendants completely abdicated their responsibility to consider alternative remedies in formulating RPA [Reasonable and Prudent Alternative] Actions that would not only protect the species, but would also minimize the adverse impacts on humans and the human environment.”

—Judge Oliver Wanger



The Challenge Continues



Stay Tuned...



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