



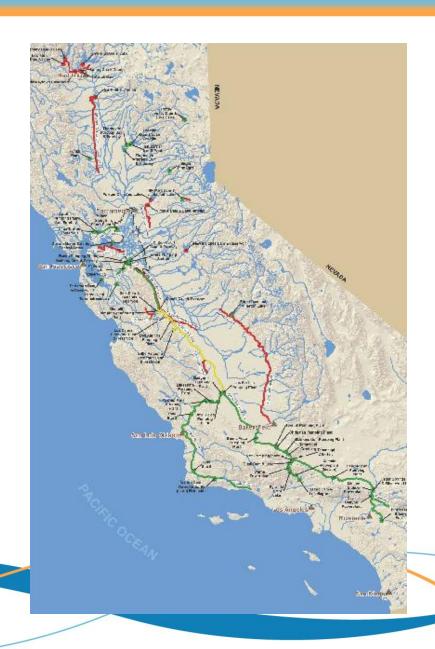


# Bay Delta Conservation Plan

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# California's Water Distribution System

- Population is concentrated in the South
- Water sources are predominately in the North
- 2/3 of Californians rely on Delta water
- Over 500,000 people live in the Delta
- 80% of the state's commercial fishery species live in or migrate through the Bay-Delta
- Habitat for 700 species, including 20 listed by ESA
- Average Annual Gross Value Agriculture totals more than \$2 billion





#### **Historic Delta Conflicts**



Center of competing demands for quantity and quality



Water supplies are not fully reliable



Water quality degradation makes it difficult and expensive to meet drinking water standards



Levee failures threaten agricultural and urban uses



Where Do We Go From Here

# The Bay Delta Conservation Plan

### Co-equal goals

- Contribute toward the recovery of endangered and sensitive species and their habitats
- Allow for the protection and restoration of water supplies

http://baydeltaconservationplan.com



### **Assembling Major Stakeholders**

- Department of Water Resources
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Santa Clara Water Agency
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
- Mirant Energy
- Westlands Water District
- Zone 7 Water Agency
- State Water Resources Control Board
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Fish and Wildlife Services\*
- CA Department of Fish and Game\*
- National Marine Fisheries Service\*
- California Bay Delta Authority
  \*Ex Officio status



- American Rivers
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Natural Heritage Institute
- The Bay Institute
- The Nature Conservancy

- North Delta Water Agency
- California Farm Bureau Federation
- California Resources Agency
- Contra Costa Water District
- Friant Water Authority



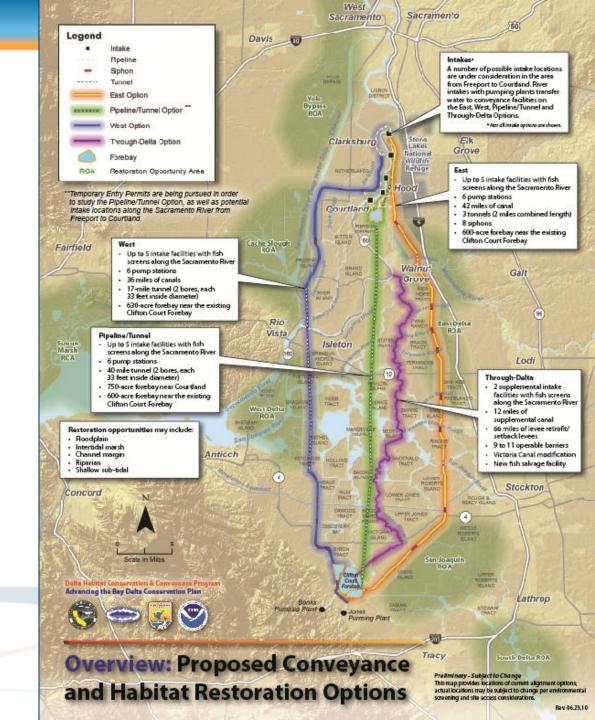
### **Project Elements**

#### **Restoration Actions**

- Ecosystem Goals
- Natural Communities Goals
- Species Goals

#### Conveyance

- Up to 5 intake sites
- 4 conveyance options





# **Project Operations Considerations**

- Geographic extent of water operations
- Restoration effects
- Conveyance effects
- Climate Change





# Challenges of Balancing Recovery of Endangered/Threatened Species and Water Supply

- Habitat conversion creates social impacts from loss of jobs and homes
- Habitat enhancements do not equally benefit sensitive species

Delta smelt vs. Salmonids Aquatic vs. Terrestrial

- Habitat restoration can mobilize hazardous materials methylmercury
- Competition for water by people and fish



#### **Surface Water**

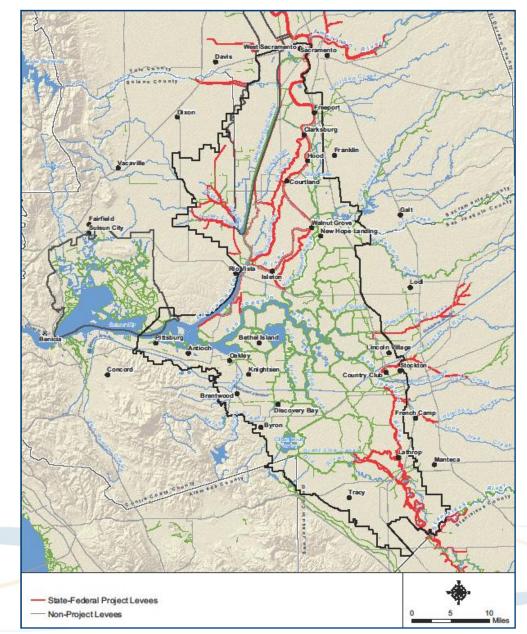
1,115 miles of levees protect about 700,000 acres within the Delta, directing water from the;

- Sacramento
- San Joaquin
- Cosumnes
- Mokolumne
- and Calaveras rivers

Minimal topographic relief = high flood potential

#### Levee reliability concerns

- Subsidence
- Sea Level Rise
- Climate Change
- Seismicity

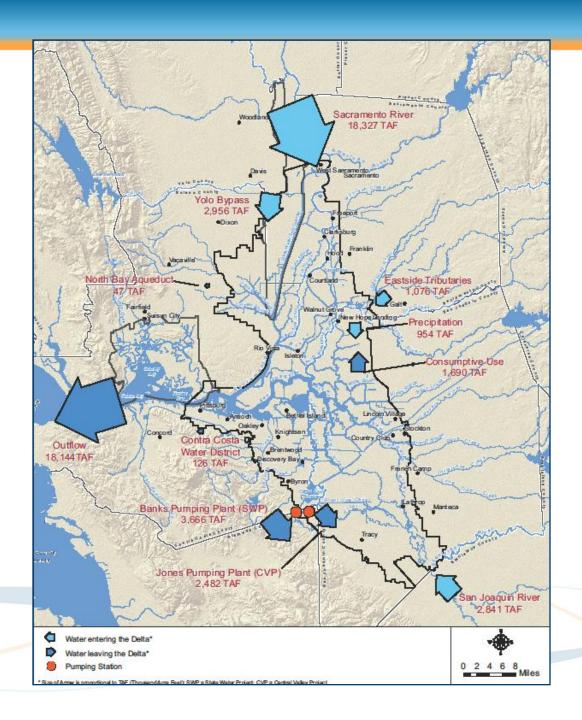




### **Water Balance**

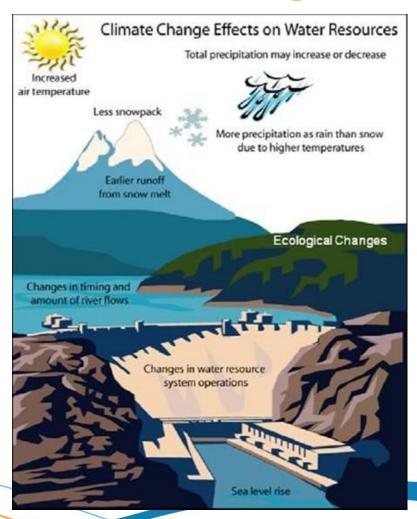
# Water balance in the Delta is influenced by;

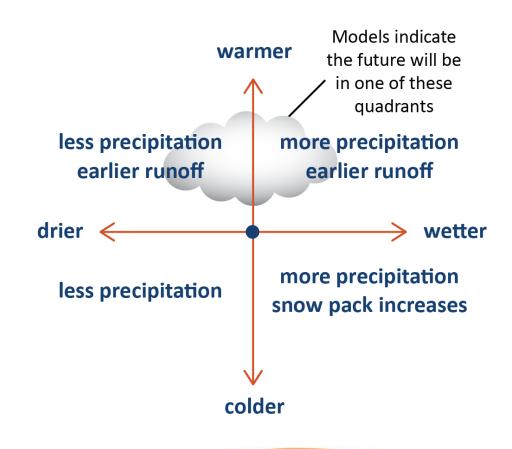
- Inflow from the tributaries, controlled by;
  - Operations of the dams and reservoirs
  - Snowmelt and other runoff
- Exports to the Central Valley from the SWP and CVP pumping stations
- Outflows to the Pacific Ocean
- Tidal influences in the San Francisco bay
- Roughly 40% of the drainage water in California travels through the Delta each year.





### **Climate Change**



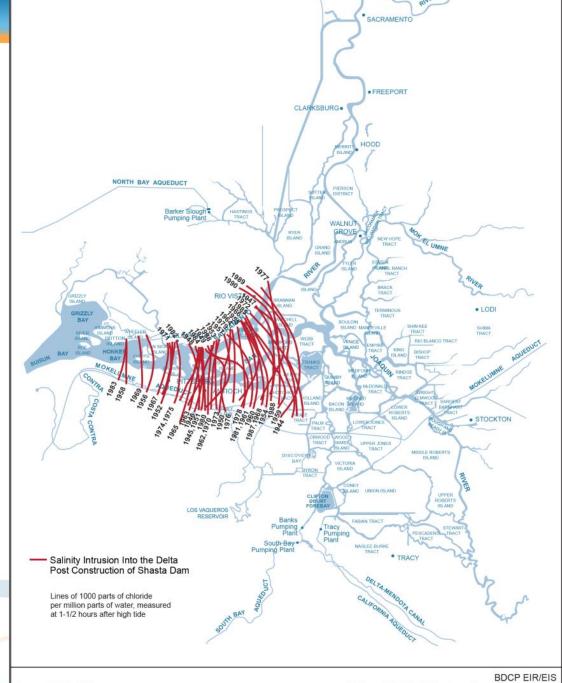




#### NCER | 2011

## **Salinity Intrusions**

Salinity in the Delta has changed due to water operations



HOR

Source: DWR 2007

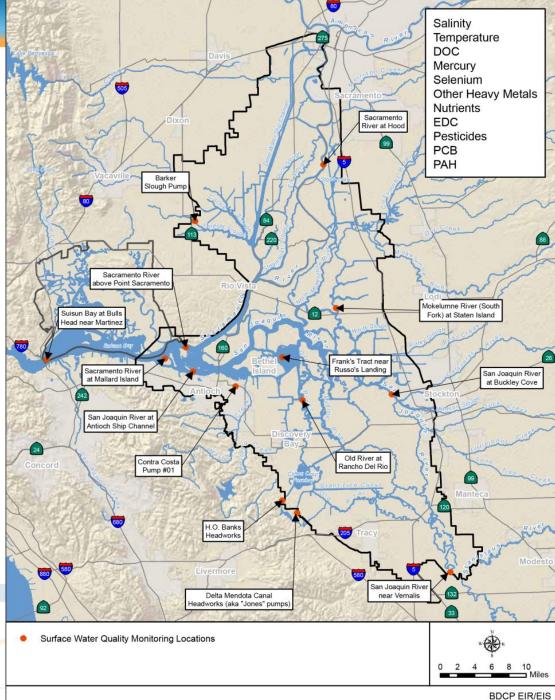
Unique ID: HDR 0143 Date Created: 05/25/2010

Source: DWR 2007

Unique ID: HDR 0142 Date Created: 05/25/2010

# **Water Quality Analysis**

- Water quality analysis to address construction, operations and restoration activities in 3 time steps
- 33 scenarios x 5 water year types × 14 sampling locations × 20 constituents =46,200





Unique ID: HDR0122 Date Created: 05/05/2010

### Fish and Aquatic Resources Evaluation Focus

#### **BDCP Covered Species**

- Delta smelt
- Longfin smelt
- Chinook salmon (winter, spring, fall and late fall)
- Green and white sturgeon
- Central valley steelhead
- Sacramento splittail
- River and Pacific lamprey

#### **EIR/EIS Species**

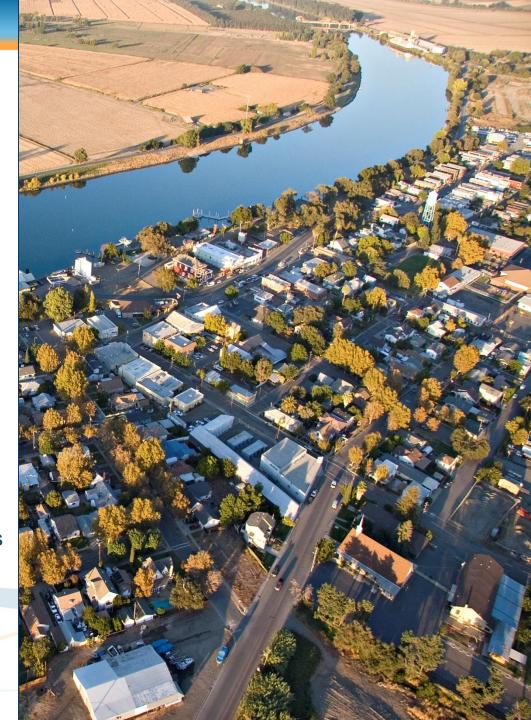
#### All BDCP covered species plus

- Warmwater game fishes
- American Shad
- Striped Bass
- Bay Shrimp
- Hardhead
- Sacramento-San Joaquin Roach
- Tule Perch

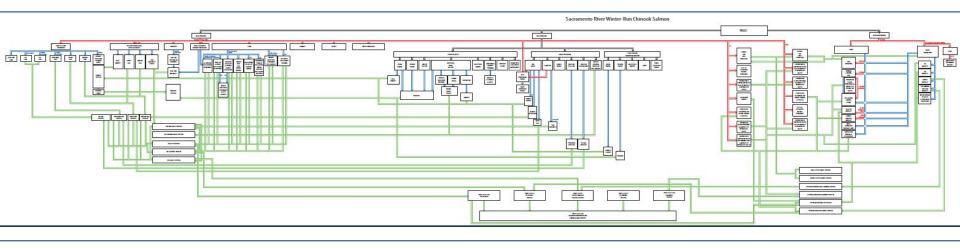


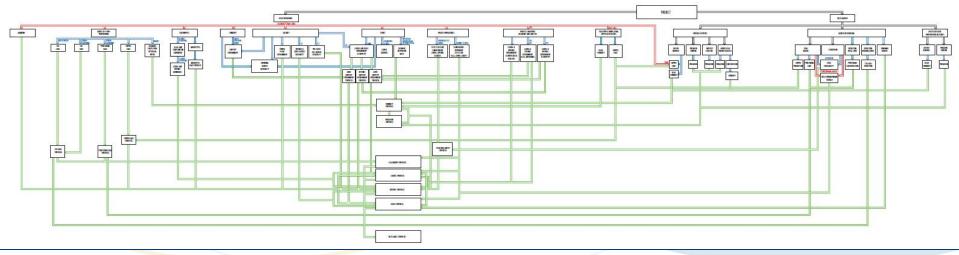
# Other Stressors Consideration

- Ammonia and Endocrine Disrupters in Wastewater
- Agricultural Contaminants
- Urban Runoff
- Low dissolved oxygen
- Methylmercury
- Non-native Species
- Fish Hatcheries and Harvest
- Entrainment by Non-project Diversions
- Predator Control



# **Species-Specific Evaluation**



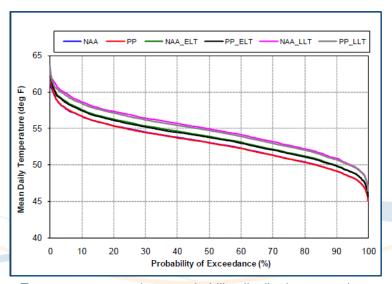




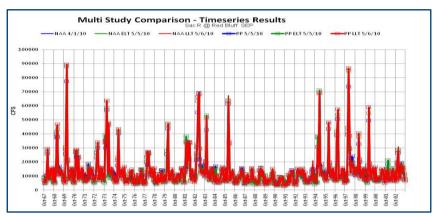
# **Species-Specific Evaluation**

### Model Dependent Analyses

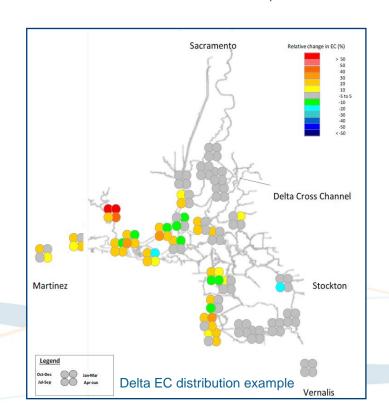
- Parameters
- Data reduction
- Data presentation
- Life cycle models





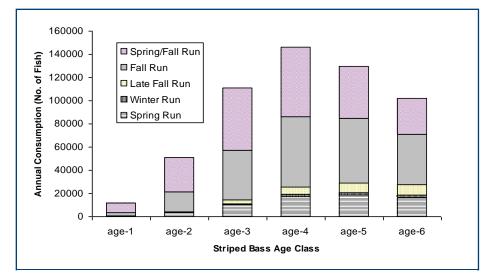


Flow time Series example

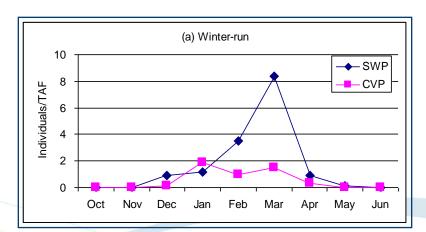


# **Species-Specific Evaluation**

- Predation
- Food Web
- Entrainment



Predation bioenergetics model example output



Historical monthly average loss rate of winter-run Chinook salmon at CVP and SWP salvage facilities.

- Construction
- Essential Fish Habitat
- Other Stressors



# It Is A Major Challenge

to restore an ecosystem in an environment like the Delta that is highly altered and largely unnatural











