NOTICE OF PREPARATION

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

January 15, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Conveyance Project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California. DWR is the lead agency under CEQA.

The Delta Conveyance Project will also involve federal agencies that must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), likely requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Federal agencies with roles with respect to the project may include approvals or permits issued by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and United States Army Corps of Engineers. To assist in the anticipated federal agencies' NEPA compliance, DWR will prepare an EIR that includes relevant NEPA information where appropriate. Once the role of the federal lead agency is established, that federal lead agency will publish a Notice of Intent to formally initiate the NEPA process.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In July 2017, DWR had previously approved a conveyance project in the Delta involving two tunnels referred to as "California WaterFix." In his State of the State address delivered February 12, 2019, Governor Newsom announced that he did not "support WaterFix as currently configured" but does "support a single tunnel." On April 29, 2019, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-10-19, directing several agencies to (among other things), "inventory and assess... [c]urrent planning to modernize conveyance through the Bay Delta with a new single tunnel project." The Governor's announcement and Executive Order led to DWR's withdrawal of all approvals and environmental compliance documentation associated with California WaterFix. The CEQA process identified in this notice for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project will, as appropriate, utilize relevant information from the past environmental planning process for California WaterFix but the proposed project will undergo a new stand-alone environmental analysis leading to issuance of a new EIR.

PROPOSED DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose and Project Objectives

CEQA requires that an EIR contain a "statement of the objectives sought by the proposed project." Under CEQA, "[a] clearly written statement of objectives will help the lead agency develop a reasonable range of alternatives to evaluate in the EIR and will aid the decision makers

in preparing findings or a statement of overriding considerations. The statement of objectives should include the underlying purpose of the project and may discuss the project benefits" (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15124[b]).

Here, as the CEQA lead agency, DWR's underlying, or fundamental, purpose in proposing the project is to develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of State Water Project (SWP) water deliveries and, potentially, Central Valley Project (CVP) water deliveries south of the Delta, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

The above stated purpose, in turn, gives rise to several project objectives. In proposing to make physical improvements to the SWP Delta conveyance system, the project objectives are:

- To address anticipated rising sea levels and other reasonably foreseeable consequences of climate change and extreme weather events.
- To minimize the potential for public health and safety impacts from reduced quantity and quality of SWP water deliveries, and potentially CVP water deliveries, south of the Delta resulting from a major earthquake that causes breaching of Delta levees and the inundation of brackish water into the areas in which the existing SWP and CVP pumping plants operate in the southern Delta.
- To protect the ability of the SWP, and potentially the CVP, to deliver water when hydrologic conditions result in the availability of sufficient amounts, consistent with the requirements of state and federal law, including the California and federal Endangered Species Acts and Delta Reform Act, as well as the terms and conditions of water delivery contracts and other existing applicable agreements.
- To provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions in the Delta and better manage risks of further regulatory constraints on project operations.¹

Description of Proposed Project Facilities

The existing SWP Delta water conveyance facilities, which include Clifton Court Forebay and the Banks Pumping Plant in the south Delta, enable DWR to divert water and lift it into the California Aqueduct. The proposed project would construct and operate new conveyance facilities in the Delta that would add to the existing SWP infrastructure. New intake facilities as points of diversion would be located in the north Delta along the Sacramento River between Freeport and the confluence with Sutter Slough. The new conveyance facilities would include a tunnel to convey water from the new intakes to the existing Banks Pumping Plant and potentially the federal Jones Pumping Plant in the south Delta. The new facilities would provide an alternate location for diversion of water from the Delta and would be operated in coordination with the existing south Delta pumping facilities, resulting in a system also known as "dual conveyance"

¹ These objectives are subject to refinement during the process of preparing a Draft EIR.

because there would be two complementary methods to divert and convey water. New facilities proposed for the Delta Conveyance Project include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Forebays
- Pumping plant
- South Delta Conveyance Facilities

Figure 1 shows the areas under consideration for these facilities. Other ancillary facilities may be constructed to support construction of the conveyance facilities including, but not limited to, access roads, barge unloading facilities, concrete batch plants, fuel stations, mitigation areas, and power transmission and/or distribution lines.

Under the proposed project, the new north Delta facilities would be sized to convey up to 6,000 cfs of water from the Sacramento River to the SWP facilities in the south Delta (with alternatives of different flow rates, as described in the "Alternatives" section below). DWR would operate the proposed north Delta facilities and the existing south Delta facilities in compliance with all state and federal regulatory requirements and would not reduce DWR's current ability to meet standards in the Delta to protect biological resources and water quality for beneficial uses. Operations of the conveyance facilities are proposed to increase DWR's ability to capture water during high flow events. Although initial operating criteria of the proposed project would be formulated during the preparation of the upcoming Draft EIR in order to assess potential environmental impacts and mitigation, final project operations would be determined after completion of the CEQA process, obtaining appropriate water right approvals through the State Water Resources Control Board's change in point of diversion process, and completing the consultation and review requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act. Construction and commissioning of the overall conveyance project, if approved, would take approximately 13 years, but the duration of construction at most locations would vary and would not extend for this full construction period.

Reclamation is considering the potential option to involve the CVP in the Delta Conveyance Project. Because of this possibility, the connection to the existing Jones Pumping Plant in the south Delta is included in the proposed facility descriptions below. The proposed project may include a portion of the overall capacity dedicated for CVP use, or it may accommodate CVP use of available capacity (when not used by SWP participants). If Reclamation determines that there could be a role for the CVP in the Delta Conveyance Project, this role would be identified in a separate NEPA Notice of Intent issued by Reclamation.

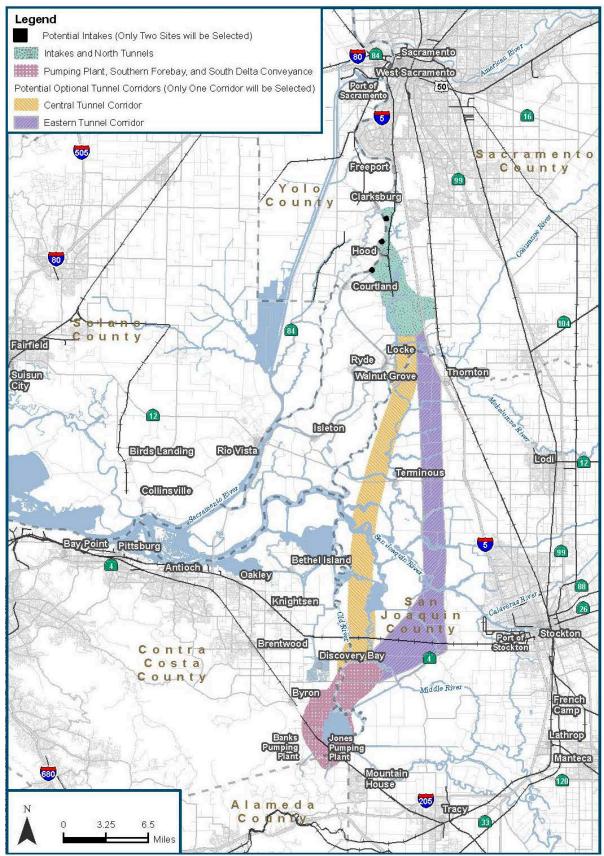


Figure 1. Proposed Project Facility Corridor Options

Intake Facilities

The proposed intake facilities would be located along the Sacramento River between Freeport and the confluence with Sutter Slough, as shown in Figure 1. The proposed project would include two intakes with a maximum diversion capacity of about 3,000 cfs each. The size of each intake location could range from 75 to 150 acres, depending upon fish screen selection, along the Sacramento River and include a state-of-the-art fish screen, sedimentation basins, tunnel shaft, and ancillary facilities. An additional 40 to 60 acres at each intake location would be temporarily disturbed for staging of construction facilities, materials storage, and a concrete batch plant, if needed.

Tunnel and Tunnel Shafts

The proposed project would construct up to two north connecting tunnel reaches to connect the intakes to an Intermediate Forebay (see "Forebays" section below), a single main tunnel from the Intermediate Forebay to a new Southern Forebay, and two connecting south tunnel reaches as part of the proposed project's South Delta Conveyance Facilities (see "South Delta Conveyance Facilities" section below) to connect to the existing SWP and, potentially CVP, facilities in the south Delta. The single main tunnel would follow one of two potential optional corridors as shown in Figure 1.

The proposed single main tunnel and connecting tunnel reaches would be constructed underground with the bottom of the tunnel at approximately 190 feet below the ground surface. Construction for the tunnel would require a series of launch shafts and retrieval shafts. Each launch and retrieval shaft site would require a permanent area of about four acres. Launch sites would involve temporary use of up to about 400 acres for construction staging and material storage. Depending on the location, the shafts may also require flood protection facilities to extend up to about 45 feet above the existing ground surface to avoid water from entering the tunnel from the ground surface if the area was flooded. Earthen material would be removed from below the ground surface as tunnel construction progresses; this reusable tunnel material could be reused for embankments or other purposes in the Delta or stored near the launch shaft locations.

Forebays

The proposed project would include an Intermediate Forebay and a Southern Forebay. The Intermediate Forebay would provide potential operational benefits and would be located along the tunnel corridor between the intakes and the pumping plant. The Southern Forebay would be located at the southern end of the single main tunnel and would facilitate conveyance to the existing SWP pumping facility and, potentially the CVP pumping facilities. The forebays would be constructed above the ground, and not within an existing water body. The size of the Intermediate Forebay would be approximately 100 acres with an additional 150 acres disturbed during construction for material and equipment storage, and reusable tunnel material storage. The embankments would be approximately 30 feet above the existing ground surface. Additional appurtenant structures, including a permanent crane, would extend up to 40 feet above the embankments.

The Southern Forebay would be located near the existing Clifton Court Forebay and would be approximately 900 acres with an additional 200 acres disturbed during construction for material and equipment storage, potential loading and offloading facilities, and reusable tunnel material storage. The Southern Forebay embankments would be up to 30 feet above the existing ground surface.

Pumping Plant

The proposed project would include a pumping plant located at the new Southern Forebay and would receive the water through the single main tunnel for discharge in the Southern Forebay. The pumping plant would be approximately 25 acres along the side of the Southern Forebay and would include support structures, with a permanent crane for maintenance as the highest feature that would extend approximately 70 feet above the existing ground surface. The temporary and permanent disturbed area for the pumping plant is included in the Southern Forebay area, described above.

South Delta Conveyance Facilities

The proposed project would include South Delta Conveyance Facilities that would extend from the new Southern Forebay to the existing Banks Pumping Plant inlet channel. The connection to the existing Banks Pumping Plant would be via canals with two tunnels to cross under the Byron Highway. The canals and associated control structures would be located over approximately 125 to 150 acres. Approximately 40 to 60 additional acres would be disturbed temporarily during construction. These facilities could also be used to connect the Southern Forebay to the CVP's Jones Pumping Plant.

Contract Amendment for Delta Conveyance

The proposed project may involve modifications to one or more of the State Water Resources Development System (commonly referred to as the SWP) water supply contracts to incorporate the Delta Conveyance Project. Therefore, if modifications move forward, the Delta Conveyance Project EIR will assess, as part of the proposed project, potential environmental impacts associated with reasonably foreseeable potential contract modifications.

PROJECT AREA

The proposed EIR project area for evaluation of impacts consists of the following three geographic regions, as shown in Figure 2, below.

- Upstream of the Delta region
- Statutory Delta (California Water Code Section 12220)
- South-of-Delta SWP Service Areas and, potentially, South-of-Delta CVP Service Areas.

The study areas will be specifically defined for each resource area evaluated in the EIR. Figure 3 shows the SWP South-of-Delta water contractors.



Figure 2. Project Area

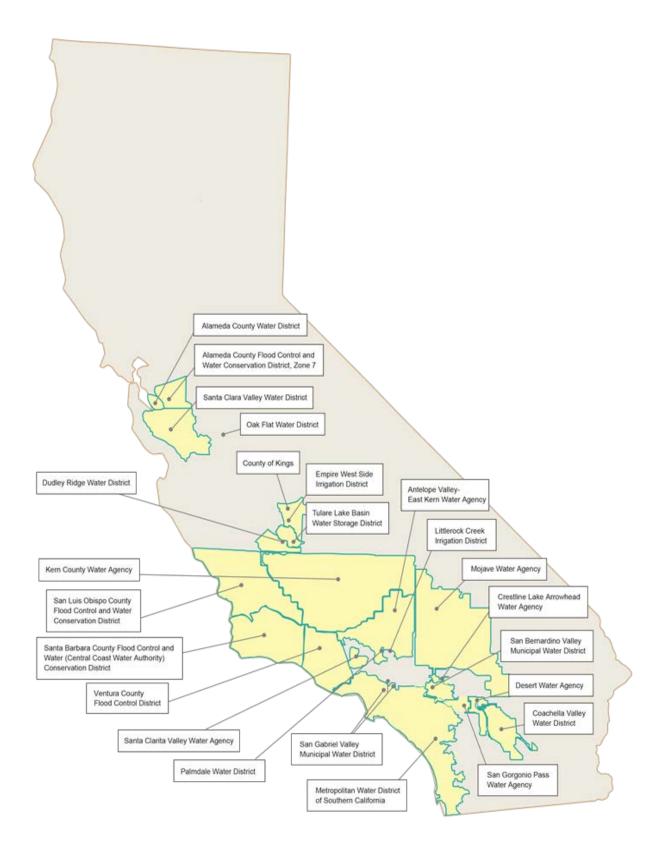


Figure 3. SWP South-of-Delta Service Areas

ALTERNATIVES

As described above, the proposed project has been informed by past efforts taken within the Delta and the watersheds of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, including those undertaken through the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)/California WaterFix. As stated in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a), the "EIR shall describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives. An EIR need not consider every conceivable alternative to a project. Rather it must consider a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that will foster informed decision making and public participation. An EIR is not required to consider alternatives which are infeasible."

The scoping process will inform preliminary locations, corridors, capacities and operations of new conveyance facilities to be evaluated in the EIR. In identifying the possible EIR alternatives to be analyzed in detail, DWR is currently considering alternatives with capacities that range from 3,000 to 7,500 cfs, with varying degrees of involvement of the CVP, including no involvement. DWR will make its final choice of potentially feasible alternatives to include in the Draft EIR after receipt of scoping comments.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

DWR as the lead agency will describe and analyze the significant environmental effects of the proposed project. DWR did not prepare an initial study so none is attached; the EIR will include the suite of resource categories contained in Appendix G of CEQA Guidelines. Probable effects may include:

- Water Supply: changes in water deliveries.
- Surface Water: changes in river flows in the Delta.
- Groundwater: potential effects to groundwater levels during operation.
- Water Quality: changes to water quality constituents and/or concentrations from operation of facilities.
- Geology and Seismicity: changes in risk of settlement during construction.
- Soils: changes in topsoil associated with construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Fish and Aquatic Resources: effects to fish and aquatic resources from construction and operation of the water conveyance facilities.
- Terrestrial Biological Resources: effects to terrestrial species due to construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Land Use: incompatibilities with land use designations.
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources: preservation or conversion of farmland.
- Recreation: displacement and reduction of recreation sites.
- Aesthetics and Visual Resources: effects to scenic views because of water conveyance facilities.
- Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources: effects to archeological and historical sites and tribal cultural resources.
- Transportation: vehicle miles traveled; effects on road and marine traffic.

- Public Services and Utilities: effects to regional or local utilities.
- Energy: changes to energy use from construction and operation of facilities.
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas: changes in criteria pollutant emissions and localized particulate matter from construction and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Noise: changes in noise and vibration from construction and operation of the facilities.
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials: potential conflicts with hazardous sites.
- Public Health: changes to surface water could potentially increase concerns about mosquito-borne diseases
- Mineral Resources: changes in availability of natural gas wells due to construction of the water conveyance facilities.
- Paleontological Resources: effects to paleontological resources due to excavation for borrow and for construction of tunnels and canals.
- Climate Change: increase resiliency to respond to climate change
- Growth Inducement and Other Indirect Effects: changes to land uses as a result of changes in water availability resulting from changes in water supply deliveries

Where the potential to cause significant environmental impacts are identified, the EIR will identify avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures that avoid or substantially lessen those impacts.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DWR previously studied a similar project through efforts on the BDCP and subsequently the California WaterFix. The proposed Delta Conveyance Project is a new project and is not supplemental to these past efforts or tiered from previous environmental compliance documents. This section provides background on these past efforts.

In October 2006, various state and federal agencies, water contractors, and other stakeholders initiated a process to develop what became known as the BDCP to advance the objectives of contributing to the restoration of ecological functions in the Delta and improving water supply reliability for the SWP and CVP Delta operations in the State of California.

In December 2013, after several years of preparation, DWR, Reclamation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service, acting as joint lead agencies under CEQA and NEPA, published a draft of the BDCP and an associated Draft EIR/EIS. The Draft EIR/EIS analyzed a total of 15 action alternatives, including Alternative 4, which was identified as DWR's preferred alternative at that time.

In July of 2015, after taking public and agency input into account, the lead agencies formulated three new sub-alternatives (2D, 4A, 5A) and released a Partially Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) for public comment. Alternative 4A, which is known as "California WaterFix" was identified as DWR and Reclamation's preferred alternative in the RDEIR/SDEIS.

On July 21, 2017, DWR certified the Final EIR and approved California WaterFix. Following

that approval, DWR continued to further refine the project, resulting in reductions to environmental impacts. These project refinements required additional CEQA/NEPA documentation.

On January 23, 2018, DWR submitted an addendum summarizing proposed project modifications to California WaterFix associated with refinements to the transmission line corridors proposed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. The Addendum described the design of the applicable modified California WaterFix power features, proposed modifications to those power features (including an explanation of the need for the modifications), the expected benefits of the modifications to the transmission lines, and potential environmental effects as a result of those power related modifications (as compared to the impacts analyzed in the certified Final EIR).

On July 18, 2018, DWR released the California WaterFix Draft Supplemental EIR, which evaluated proposed changes to the certain conveyance facilities of the approved project. (No Final Supplemental EIR was ever completed, due to the change in direction dictated by Governor Newsom's State of the State speech and Executive Order N-10-19.) On September 21, 2018, Reclamation issued the California WaterFix Draft Supplemental EIS, including an alternatives comparison.

SCOPING MEETINGS

The proposed project is of statewide, regional or area-wide significance; therefore, a CEQA scoping meeting is required pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9, subdivision (a)(2). Public Scoping meetings are scheduled to take place at the following times and locations:

- Monday, February 3, 2020, 1 p.m. 3 p.m. California Environmental Protection Agency Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento
- Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Junipero Serra State Building, 320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles
- Monday, February 10, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Jean Harvie Community Center, 14273 River Road, Walnut Grove
- Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose
- Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. San Joaquin Council of Governments Board Room, 555 Weber Avenue, Stockton
- Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium, 52870 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg
- Thursday, February 20, 2020, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Brentwood Community Center Conference Room, 35 Oak Street, Brentwood

Anyone interested in more information concerning the EIR process, or anyone who has information concerning the study or suggestions as to significant issues, should contact Marcus Yee at (916) 651-6736.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

This notice is being furnished to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues and alternatives to consider in developing the EIR. The primary purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues raised by the public and responsible and trustee public agencies related to the issuance of regulatory permits and authorizations and natural resource protection. Written comments from interested parties are invited to ensure that the full range of environmental issues related to the development of the EIR are identified. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

Written comments on this part of the Scoping process will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 20, 2020 and can be submitted in several ways:

- Via email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov
- Via Mail: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments, Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236

As required by the CEQA Guidelines, within 30 days after receiving the Notice of Preparation, each responsible and trustee agency is required to provide the lead agency with specific detail about the scope, significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures related to the responsible or trustee agency's area of statutory responsibility that will need to be explored in the EIR. In the response, responsible and trustee agencies should indicate their respective level of responsibility for the project.

PLEASE NOTE: DWR's practice is to make the entirety of comments received a part of the public record. Therefore names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of commenters, if included in the response, will be made part of the record available for public review. Individual commenters may request that DWR withhold their name and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish DWR to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In the absence of this written request, this information will be made part of the record for public review. DWR will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of, or officials of, organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Appendix B Public Noticing Documents

Memorandum

Date:	January 15, 2020
То:	County Clerk
Subject:	Notice of Preparation for Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Impact Report

Effective January 15, 2020, the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Impact Report is available for public review and comment. The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review.

Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, it is requested that you make the NOP available for public review through March 20, 2020. Enclosed are the requested copies of the NOP and signed Notice of Completion. Please send a receipt of document arrival in the self-addressed stamped envelope. Additionally, please post the enclosed flyer in a location designated for public notices. If you have any questions, please contact Marcus Yee, Delta Conveyance Office, at (916) 651-6736.

Appendix C

SCH #

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Lead Agency: California Department of Water Resources	Contact Person: Marcu	Contact Person: Marcus Yee		
Mailing Address: 901 P St		Phone: (916) 651-6736		
City: Sacramento	Zip: <u>95814</u>	County: Sacramento	······	
Project Location: County: Yolo, Sacramento, Soleno, San Joaquin, C Cross Streets: Area from south of the Town of Freeport to just north of	Contra Costa, Alameda City/Nearest Cor		Ite 160 Zip Code:	
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 38	³ ∘ 21 ′ 24.03 ″ N / 121	° 31 / 30.64 " W Total	Acres:	
Assessor's Parcel No.:	Section:	Twp.: Rang	e: Base:	
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 1-5, SR-160, Hwy 4	Waterways: Sacra	Waterways: Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, the legal Delta		
Airports:	Railways:	Scho	ols:	
Document Type: CEQA: NOP Draft EIR Early Cons Supplement/Subs Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) Mit Neg Dec Other:	[_	NOI Other: EA Draft EIS FONSI	 Joint Document Final Document Other: 	
Local Action Type:General Plan UpdateSpecific PlanGeneral Plan AmendmentMaster PlanGeneral Plan ElementPlanned Unit DCommunity PlanSite Plan		nit vision (Subdivision, etc.)	 Annexation Redevelopment Coastal Permit Other: 	
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Residential: Units Acres Office: Sq.ft. Acres En Commercial:Sq.ft. Acres En Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres En Educational: Recreational: En MGE Water Facilities:Type Diversion/Water Conveyance MGE	nployees Mining nployees Power: Waste T Hazarde	Freatment:Type	MW MGD	
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 Aesthetic/Visual Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Floo Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Archeological/Historical Biological Resources Minerals Coastal Zone Noise Drainage/Absorption Population/Hou Economic/Jobs Public Services 	e Hazard Septic Syste ic Sewer Capar Soil Erosion Solid Waste sing Balance Toxic/Hazar	iversities ems city n/Compaction/Grading e rdous	 Vegetation Water Quality Water Supply/Groundwater Wetland/Riparian Growth Inducement Land Use Cumulative Effects Other: Surface Weter, Climate Chenga, Paleotor 	
Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Design Varies between counties	ation:			

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

See Attached Project Description

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

	Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distributed have already sent your document to the agency please					
х	Air Resources Board	х	Office of Historic Preservation			
x	Boating & Waterways, Department of		Office of Public School Construction			
Research All	California Emergency Management Agency	x	Parks & Recreation, Department of			
	California Highway Patrol	x	Pesticide Regulation, Department of			
x	Caltrans District # 3, 4, 10	x	Public Utilities Commission			
-	Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	x	Regional WQCB # 5			
	Caltrans Planning		Resources Agency			
x	Central Valley Flood Protection Board	1	Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of			
	Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	x	S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.			
-	Coastal Commission		San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy			
	Colorado River Board		San Joaquin River Conservancy			
x	Conservation, Department of		Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy			
	Corrections, Department of	x	State Lands Commission			
x	Delta Protection Commission		SWRCB: Clean Water Grants			
	Education, Department of	х	SWRCB: Water Quality			
х	Energy Commission	х	SWRCB: Water Rights			
x	Fish & Game Region # 2, 3	990 ALC:	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency			
Х	Food & Agriculture, Department of	х	Toxic Substances Control, Department of			
	Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of		Water Resources, Department of			
	General Services, Department of					
х	Health Services, Department of	х	Other: CA Dept. of Public Health			
	Housing & Community Development	x	Other: Delta Stewardship Council			
Х	Native American Heritage Commission					
	Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agen		g Date March 20th, 2020			
Lead	Agency (Complete if applicable):					
Consulting Firm:		Applicant: California Department of Water Resources				
Address:						
City/State/Zip:		City/State/Zip: Sacramento, CA 95814				
	ct:	Phone	: (916) 651-6736			
Phone						
Signa	Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Date: Date:					

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Contra Costa Times

2850 Shadelands Dr., Ste. 101 Walnut Creek, CA 94598 925-943-8019

3781017

DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES CHRISTOPHER GEACH P.O. BOX 942836 SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

FILE NO. CEQA Delta Conveyance EIR

In the matter of

Contra Costa Times

I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and I am not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the Legal Advertising Clerk of the printer and publisher of the Contra Costa Times, a newspaper published in the English language in the City of Walnut Creek, County of Contra Costa, State of California.

I declare that the Contra Costa Times is a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of the State of California as determined by court decree dated October 22, 1934, Case Number 19764. Said decree states that the Contra Costa Times is adjudged to be a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Walnut Creek, County of Contra Costa and State of California. Said order has not been revoked.

I declare that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit: 01/16/2020

0006434309 Legal No.

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initi-ated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel op-tion to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the any impacted by the proposed single tunnel the any impact the second se tion to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping peri-od, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Written comments can be mailed to: Delta Con-veyance Scoping Comments; Attn: Renee Ro-driguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Comments can be emailed to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@ water.ca.gov

Accessing the Documents and Public Scoping Meetings: Additional information regarding Delta conveyance, including the Notice of Preparation and related availability and infor-mational materials, and public scoping meet-ings can be viewed online at: https://water.ca. gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Planning, A hard copy of the NOP may be requested via email at: deltaconveyance@water.ca.gov. For ques-tions regarding how to attend a scoping meet-ing please contact Marcus Yee at 916-651-6736. CCT #6434309; Jan. 16, 2020

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at Walnut Creek, California. On this 16th day of January, 2020.

mostin Vloy

Signature

Woodland Daily Democrat

711 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 530-406-6223 legals@dailydemocrat.com

3821606

MARCUS YEE BONDERSON BUILDING 901 P STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

PROOF OF PUBLICATION (2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO

FILE NO. DeltaConveyance_Public Notice 2

I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the Legal Advertising Clerk of the printer and publisher of The Daily Democrat, a newspaper published in the English language in the City of Woodland, County of Yolo, State of California.

I declare that the Daily Democrat is a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of the State of California as determined by this court's order dated June 30, 1952 in the action entitled In the Matter of the Ascertainment and Establishment of the Standing of The Daily Democrat as a Newspaper of General Circulation, Case Number 12659. Said order states "The Daily Democrat" has been established, printed and published in the City of Woodland, County of Yolo, State of California; That it is a newspaper published daily for the dissemination of local and telegraphic news and intelligence of general character and has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers; and...THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED....That "The Daily Democrat" is a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Woodland, County of Yolo, California. Said order has not been revoked.

I declare that this notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

01/15/2020

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Woodland, California, this 15th day of January 2020

(Signature) Jill Teer

Legal No.

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled The Department of Resources Wator (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Written comments can be mailed to: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments; Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Comments can be emailed to: D eltaConveyanceScop ing@water.ca.gov

Accessing the Documents and Public Scoping Meetings: Additional information regarding Delta conveyance, including the Notice of Preparation and related availability informational and materials, and public scoping meetings can be viewed online at: https://wate r.ca.gov /Programs /State-Water-Project/ Delta-Conveyance/ Environmental-Planning. A hard copy of the NOP may he requested via email at: deltaconve yance@water.ca.gov For questions regarding how to attend a scoping

1

0006447041

This Space For Filing Stamp PROOF OF PUBLICATION (2015.5 C.C.P.) STATE OF CALIFORNIA County of Solano I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Solano County. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to, or interested in, this Legal or Public Notice matter, I am the principal Legal Advertising Clerk for the DAILY REPUBLIC Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings 1250 Texas Street Scheduled P.O. Box 47 The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tun-nel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the Fairfield, CA 94533 scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020, Written comments can be mailed to: Deita Conveyance Scopa newspaper of general circulation printed ing Comments; Attn: Renee Bodriguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Comments can be emailed to: DeltaConveyanceScop and published mornings, daily and Sunday, ing@water.ca.gov Accessing the Documents and Public Scoping Meetings: Additional information re in the City of Fairfield, County of Solano, garding Delta conveyance, including the Notice of Preparation and related availability and informational materials, and public scoping meetings can be viewed online at which has been adjudged a newspaper of https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Planning: A hard copy of the NOP may be requested via email at: deltaconveyance@wageneral circulation by the Superior Court of ter ca gov. For questions regarding how to attend a scoping meeting please contact Mar cus Yee at 916-651-6736. DR# 00035699 Published: January 16, 2020 the County of Solano, State of California, Case Number 25875, on June 30, 1952. I certify under penalty of perjury that the attached Legal or Public Notice has been published in each regular and entire issue of the Daily Republic, and not in any supplement, on the following date(s): nua in the year: Bv: Lana Vargas, Legal Advertising Clerk Date:

Los Angeles Times

IA GROUP

Printed: 1/13/2020 5:28:03 PM

Page 2 of 2

* Agency Commission not included

Order ID: 7652870

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GROSS PRICE * :

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Run Date(s): Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Color Spec. B/W

Preview

LEGAL NOTICE

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Written comments can be mailed to: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments; Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Comments be emailed can to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

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Published in the Los Angeles Times on: January 15, 2020

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

339807 0004529278 Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated Legal Notice \$393.18 Attention: Connor Block DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES DECLARATION OF PUI (C.C.P.2015.5) 1416 NINTH STREET RM 340 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 Image: Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Soping Meetings Scheduled Image: Conveyance Environmental Impact Review Initiated and Public Soping Meetings Scheduled The Department of Water Resources of Preparation (NOP) for the develop- ment of an Environmental Impact Review Initiating Scheduled The Sacramento Bee, prin published in the City of Sa County of Sacramento, Sta California, daily, for which newspaper of general circl (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the Scoping Area and principal scheduled Sacramento Field County of Sacramento, Sta California, daily, for which newspaper of General circl the Superior Court of the County of the Curve Superior Count of the Superior Count of the Curve California, daily, for which newspaper of General circle
DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES (C.C.P.2015.5) 1416 NINTH STREET RM 340 I am a citizen of the United a resident of the County at am over the age of eighted and not a party to or intere above entitled matter. I arr and principal clerk of the p The Sacramento Bee, prin published in the City of Sa County of Sacramento, Sta County of Sacramento, St
portunity for public and agency comments the Superior Court of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR Sacramento, State of Calif through March 20, 2020. Written the date of September 26, comments can be mailed to: Delta Action No. 379071; that the conversace Scoping Comments; which the annexed is a pri of Water Resources; P.O. Box has been published in eac comments can be emailed to: Delta thereof and not in any sup Accessing the Documents and thereof on the following dat

Legals Clerk

COUNTY OF DALLAS STATE OF TEXAS

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed at Sacramento, California, on January 16, 2020.

Notary Public

Extra charge for lost or duplicate affidavits. Legal document please do not destroy!



LIZBETH AILEEN CORDERO My Notary ID # 131868068 Expires January 25, 2023

San Jose Mercury News

4 N. 2nd Street, Suite 800 San Jose, CA 95113 408-920-5332

3781017

DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES CHRISTOPHER GEACH P.O. BOX 942836 SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001

PROOF OF PUBLICATION IN THE CITY OF SAN JOSE IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

FILE NO. C. Geach: Delta Conveyance Scoping In the matter of

San Jose Mercury News

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That at all times hereinafter mentioned affiant was and still is a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled proceedings; and was at and during all said times and still is the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of the San Jose Mercury News, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published daily in the City of San Jose, County of Santa Clara, State of California as determined by the court's decree dated June 27, 1952, Case Numbers 84096 and 84097, and that said San Jose Mercury News is and was at all times herein mentioned a newspaper of general circulation as that term is defined by Sections 6000; that at all times said newspaper has been established, printed and published in the said County and State at regular intervals for more than one year preceding the first publication of the notice herein mentioned. Said decree has not been revoked, vacated or set aside.

I declare that the notice, of which the annexed is a true printed copy, has been published in each regular or entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

01/16/2020

Dated at San Jose, California January 16, 2020

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Principal clerk of the printer and publisher of the San Jose Mercury News

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled

Scheduled The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel op-tion to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping peri-od, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEOA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Written comments can be mailed to: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments; Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Com-ments can be emailed to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

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THE RECORD PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

THE UNDERSIGNED SAYS:

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of San Joaquin County; I am over the age of 18 years and not a part to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of THE RECORD, a newspaper of general publication, printed and published daily in the City of Stockton, County of San Joaquin by the Superior Court of the County of San Joaquin, State of California, under the date of February 26, 1952, File No. 52857, San Joaquin County Records; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, To wit,

January 16 2020

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on January 16, 2020 In Stockton California

larl

Delailah Little, The Record

0000175882

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, pro-viding an opportunity for public and agency comments on the scope and content of the CEQA review. DWR is accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Written comments can be mailed to: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments; Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources; P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236. Comments can be emailed to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

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#175882 1/16/20

Memorandum

Date:	January 15, 2020
То:	Library Clerk/Reference Desk
Subject:	Notice of Preparation for Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Impact Report

Effective January 15, 2020, the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Impact Report is available for public review and comment. The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review.

Consistent with the requirements of CEQA, it is requested that you make the enclosed NOP available for public review through March 20, 2020. In addition, please post the enclosed flyer in a location designated for public notices through March 20, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Marcus Yee, Delta Conveyance Office, at (916) 651-6736.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES 1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836 SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001



January 14, 2020

(916) 653-5791

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is releasing a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Modernizing Delta conveyance is part of the state's Water Resilience Portfolio, which describes the framework to address California's water challenges and support long-term water resilience and ecosystem health.

The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review, including the potential environmental impacts of the proposed single tunnel conveyance project and range of alternatives that will be analyzed in the EIR.

Public participation is an important component of the environmental review process, providing an opportunity for public and community input to be reflected in development of the EIR. DWR is currently accepting comments on the scope of the EIR through March 20, 2020. Comments may be submitted in several ways:

Written comments can be mailed to:

Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236

Comments can be emailed to: <u>DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov</u>

The public is also invited to attend one of the several public scoping meetings to get information, ask questions and submit comments on the scope of the EIR.

Public Scoping Meetings

SACRAMENTO

Monday, February 3, 2020 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. CA EPA Building 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

STOCKTON

Thursday, February 13, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. San Joaquin Council of Governments, Board Room 555 Weber Avenue Stockton, CA 95202

LOS ANGELES

Wednesday, February 5, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Junipero Serra State Building 320 West Fourth Street Los Angeles, CA 90013

WALNUT GROVE

Monday, February 10, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Jean Harvie Community Center 14273 River Road Walnut Grove, CA 95690

SAN JOSE

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Santa Clara Valley Water District, Board Room 5750 Almaden Expressway San Jose, CA 95118

CLARKSBURG

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium 52870 Netherlands Road Clarksburg, CA 95612

BRENTWOOD

Thursday, February 20, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Brentwood Community Ctr, Conference Room 35 Oak Street Brentwood, CA 94513

Additional information regarding Delta conveyance, including the Notice of Preparation and related availability and informational materials, can be viewed online at: <u>https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Planning</u>.

For additional information or any questions, please contact: (916) 651-9569.

Sincerely,

Marcus Yee Program Manager Delta Conveyance Office California Department of Water Resources

Enclosure: Notice of Preparation of the Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled

The Department of Water Resources has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

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HOW TO COMMENT | Comments Due by March 20, 2020



Email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov



Mail: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236



At a Public Meeting

(See dates and locations for all public scoping meetings on reverse side.)



Attend a Public Meeting

Several public scoping meetings will be held throughout the state as an opportunity to get information, ask questions and submit comments on the scope of the EIR.

FIRST-CLASS MAIL POSTAGE & FEES PAID DEPT. WATER RESOURCES PERMIT NO. 2014

Sacramento | 2/3/20, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | CA EPA Building | 1001 | Street, Sacramento

Los Angeles | 2/5/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Junipero Serra State Building | 320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles

Walnut Grove | 2/10/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Jean Harvie Community Center | 14273 River Road, Walnut Grove

San Jose | 2/12/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room | 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose

Stockton | 2/13/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | San Joaquin Council of Governments, Board Room | 555 Weber Avenue, Stockton

Clarksburg | 2/19/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium | 52870 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg

Brentwood | 2/20/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Brentwood Community Ctr, Conference Room | 35 Oak Street, Brentwood

For more information, contact: Para más información por favor llame al Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi số Para sa karagdagang impormasyon, mangyaring tumawag sa 如欲瞭解更多資訊, 請致電 Kom tạu lus ghia ntxiv, thov hụ សំរាប់ពត៌មានថែមទៀត សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ

1-866-924-9955

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Initiated and Public Scoping Meetings Scheduled



The Department of Water Resources has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

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HOW TO COMMENT

Comments Due by March 20, 2020



Email:

DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov



Mail:

Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236



At a Public Meeting

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For more information, contact: Para más información por favor llame al Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi số Para sa karagdagang impormasyon, mangyaring tumawag sa 如欲瞭解更多資訊, 請致電 Kom tau lus qhia ntxiv, thov hu សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានថែមទៀត សូមទូសើព្ទមកលេខ

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Appendix C Scoping Meeting Materials



Delta Conveyance Project CEQA Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

*Doors open for check-in 30 minutes prior to the listed meeting start time so presentations can begin promptly.

- 1. Welcome/Meeting Format Janet Barbieri, Facilitator (5 minutes)
 - DWR is seeking agency and public input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and input about alternatives that meet the project's objective
- **2. Presentation -** Carrie Buckman, Environmental Program Manager, Department of Water Resources (30 minutes)
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Overview
 - Notice of Preparation (NOP) Details
 - Scoping Process and Public Involvement
 - Opportunity to ask clarifying questions related to the scoping process or contents of the NOP

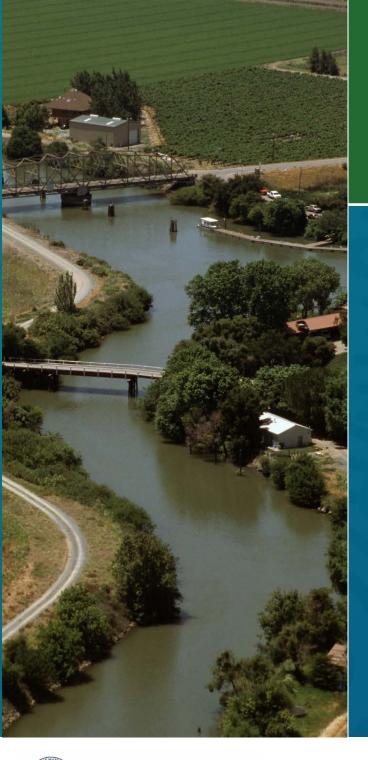
3. Comment Session (1 hour 25 minutes)

- Commenters will have three minutes to provide verbal comment that will be entered into the record
- Comments may also be submitted in several ways:
 - In writing at today's meeting
 - Email: <u>DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov</u>
 - Mail: Department of Water Resources Attn: Renee Rodriguez P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236
- All comments received during the scoping period will be considered in the development of the Draft EIR

Delta Conveyance Project: Scoping and CEQA

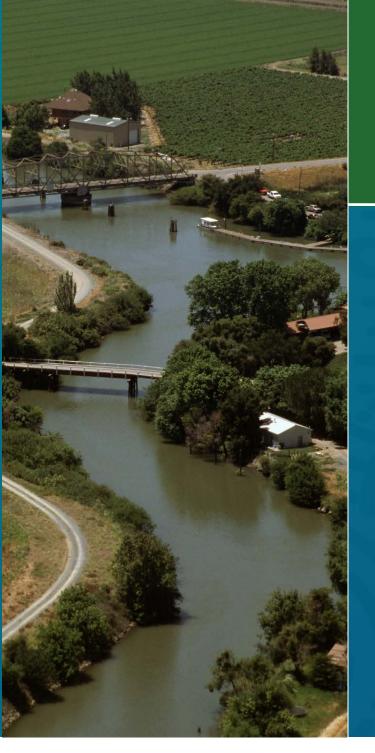
Carrie Buckman Environmental Program Manager

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

- Inform: Decision-makers and the public about a proposed project's environmental effects
- Identify: Ways to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts
- **Prevent**: Environmental damage by requiring implementation of feasible alternatives or mitigation measures
- **Foster**: Interagency coordination and public participation
- **Show**: That the agency is considering environmental implications of actions prior to making decisions



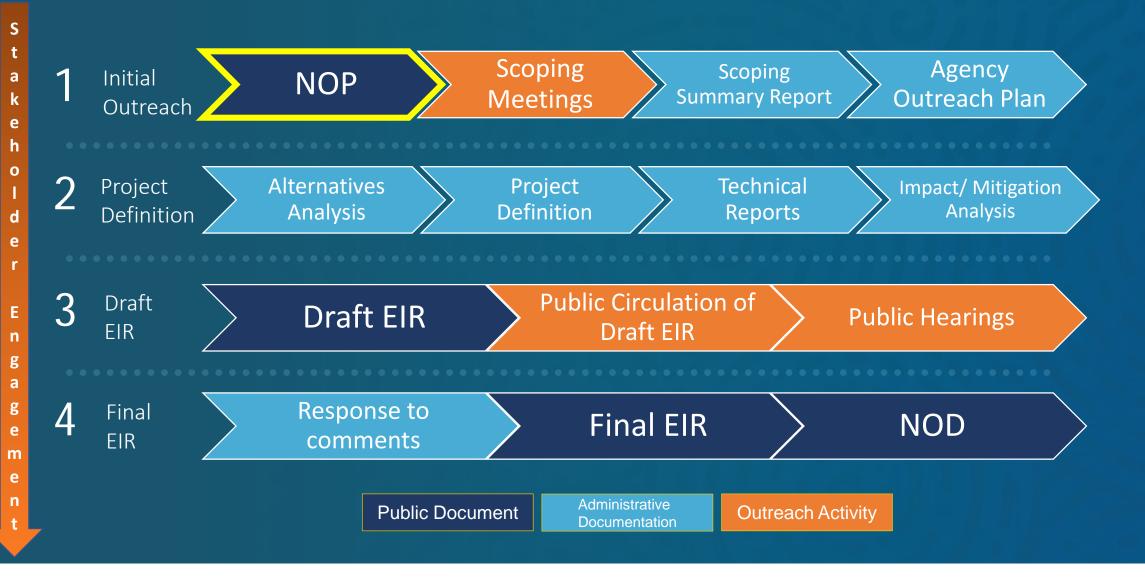
Key Contents of an EIR

- Project description
- Environmental setting / baseline
- Discussion of significant environmental impacts
- Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts
- Mitigation measures
- Growth-inducing impacts
- Alternatives compared in meaningful detail
- Significant irreversible changes
- Organizations / persons consulted
- Summary

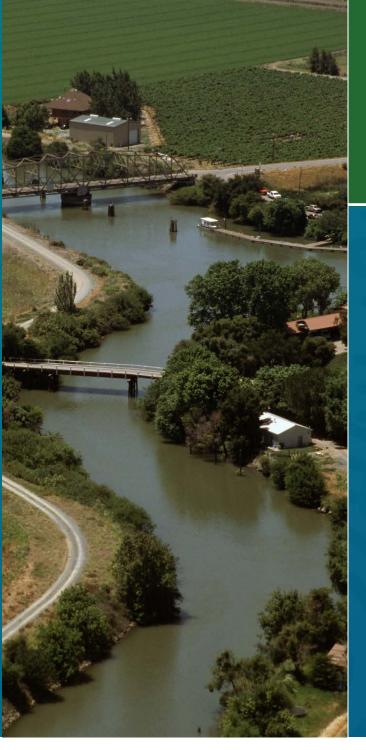


Delta Conveyance Environmental Review

Identify, analyze and disclose the potential significant adverse environmental impacts of a proposed project, and provide feasible mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid or reduce such effects.





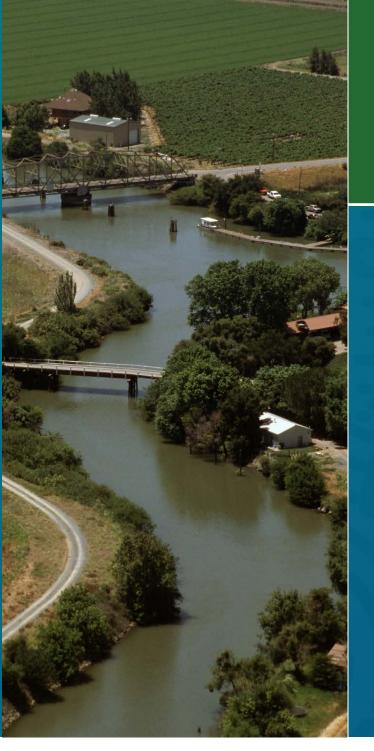


Notice of Preparation (NOP) Background

- July 2017:
- February 2019:
- April 2019:
- May 2019:
- January 2020:

DWR approved a two-tunnel conveyance project (California WaterFix). Governor Newsom announced his support for a single tunnel conveyance project. Executive Order issued, directing DWR to assess planning for a single tunnel project. DWR withdrew all California WaterFix approval and environmental compliance documentation. State released draft Water Resilience Portfolio and DWR issued an NOP for a proposed single tunnel project.



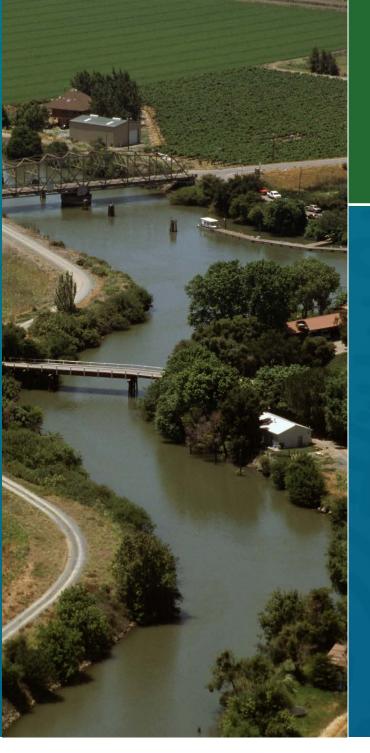


Notice of Preparation Purpose

- Documents the intent to develop an EIR for the Delta Conveyance Project
- Triggers the start of scoping
- Describes the proposed project, including probable environmental effects
- Provides notice about scoping meetings and how to make a scoping comment

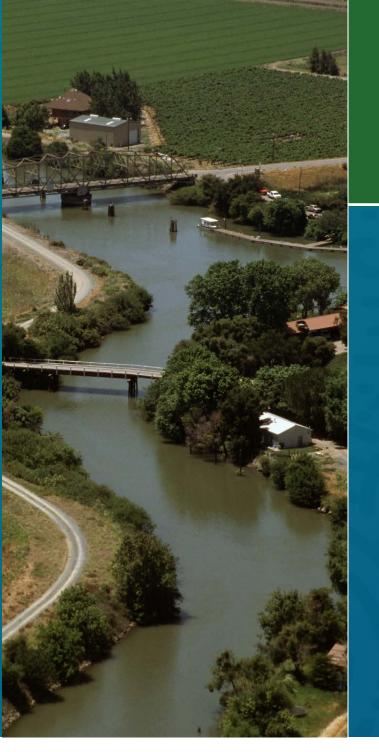
The NOP is not a decision document.





Scoping Purpose

- Provides an opportunity for responsible/trustee agencies, other public agencies, tribes and the general public to comment on:
 - Locations, corridors, capacities and operations of new conveyance facilities to evaluate in the EIR
 - Alternatives to evaluate in the EIR
 - Impacts and mitigation to evaluate in the EIR
 - Other issues Lead Agency should consider for the EIR

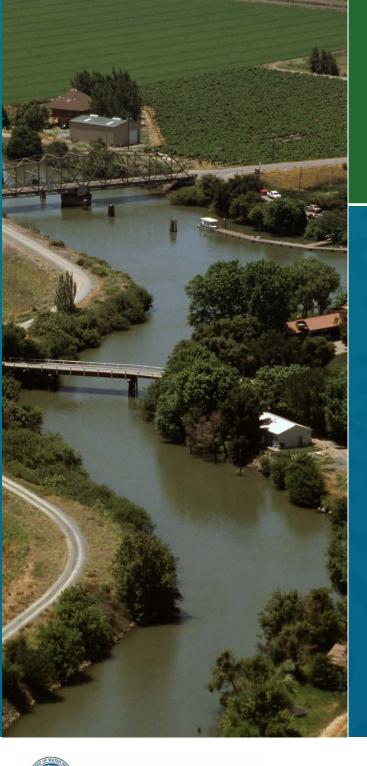


Notice of Preparation Contents

The Delta Conveyance Project NOP includes:

- Description of Proposed Project
- Proposed Project Objectives
- Proposed Project Area
- Proposed Project Facilities





Delta Conveyance Project: Purpose and Objectives

Purpose:

Develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of water deliveries in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

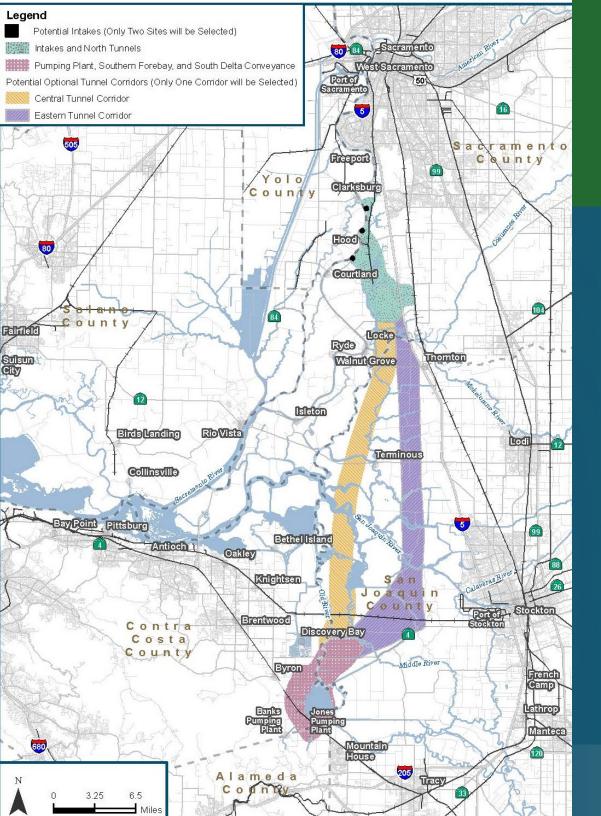
Objectives:

- Address sea level rise and climate change
- Minimize water supply disruption due to seismic risk
- **Protect** water supply reliability
- Provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions



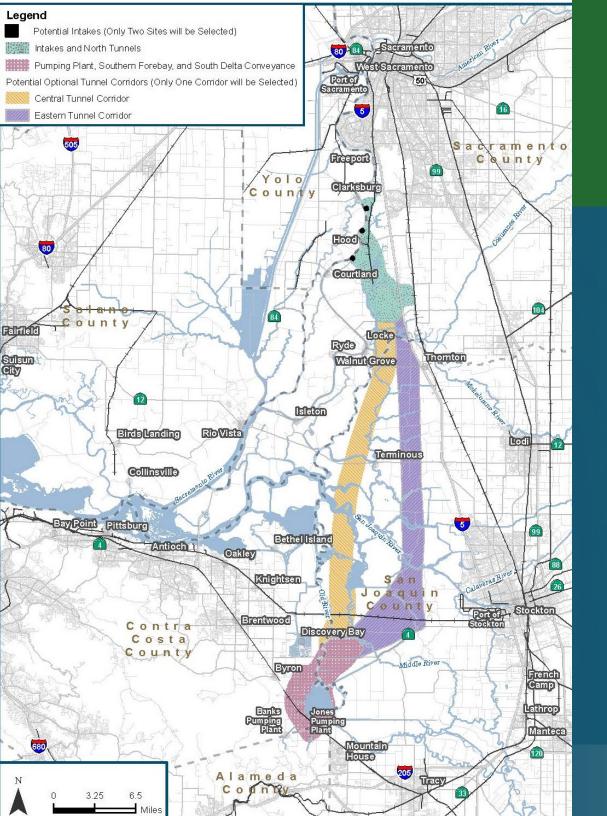
Proposed Project Area

- Upstream of the Delta region
- Statutory Delta
- South-of-Delta



Proposed Project Facilities

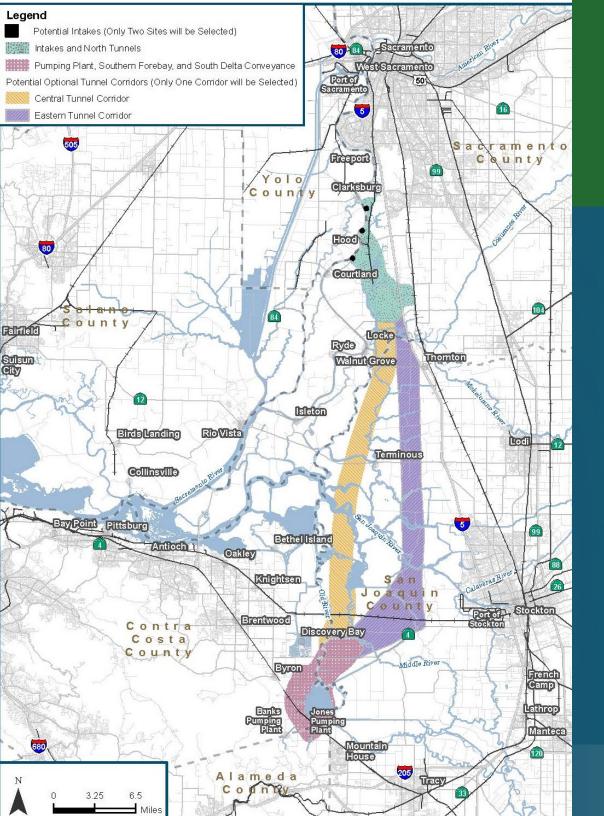
- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Forebays
- Pumping plant
- South Delta conveyance facilities



Proposed Project Corridors

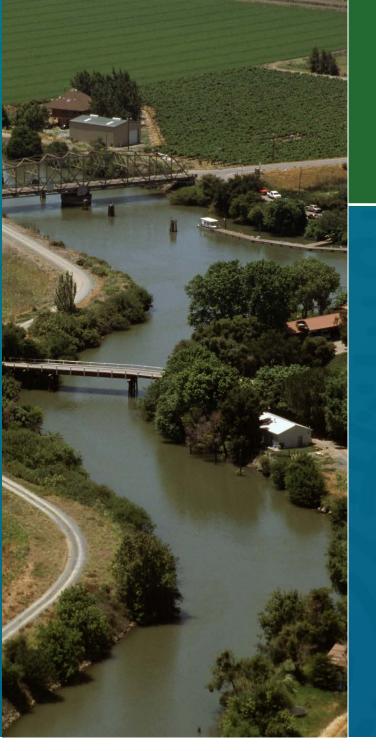
Options:

• A single tunnel is proposed to follow one of two corridors in the central or eastern portion of the Delta.



Proposed Project Capacity

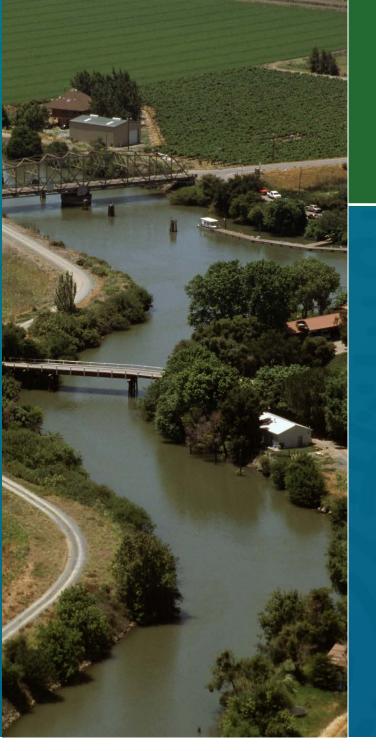
- 6,000 cubic feet-per-second (cfs) combined between two intakes (3,000 cfs each).
- Likely alternatives to the proposed project capacity will likely be considered within the range of 3,000 cfs – 7,500 cfs.



Operations

- A new diversion facility would be operated together with existing South Delta pumping facilities.
- Operations would increase DWR's ability to capture water during high flow events.
- Initial operating criteria will be formulated to assess impacts and mitigation.
- Final project operations would be determined after California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and permitting is complete.

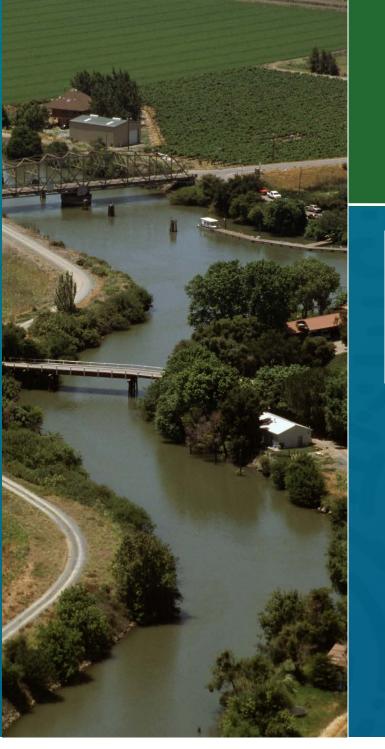




Alternatives Development

- DWR will select a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that meet project objectives and present opportunities to reduce impacts.
- The scoping period provides an opportunity for the public to comment on alternatives.
- Following scoping, DWR will publicize the alternatives it intends to include for detailed evaluation in the Draft EIR.





How to Comment

Comments due by March 20, 2020

ELECTRONIC:

By email to: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

MAIL:



Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento CA 94236



AT A PUBLIC MEETING:

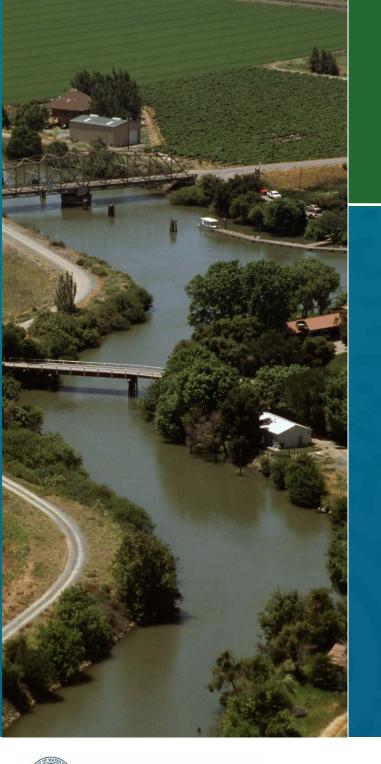
Verbal comments will be recorded by a court reporter. Written comments may also be submitted at the meeting.



How are Scoping Comments Used?

- Following the close of the scoping period, DWR will consider all input received and will issue a scoping report to document the process and common themes.
- The comments received during scoping will help inform DWR in developing alternatives and in conducting impact analyses.





LIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF

List of Scoping Meetings

SACRAMENTO Monday, February 3, 2020 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

LOS ANGELES Wednesday, February 5, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. **STOCKTON** Thursday, February 13, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

<u>CLARKSBURG</u> Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

<u>WALNUT GROVE</u> Monday, February 10, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

<u>SAN JOSE</u> Wednesday, February 12, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. BRENTWOOD Thursday, February 20, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

<u>**REDDING**</u> Monday, March 2, 2020 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Ways to Stay Informed

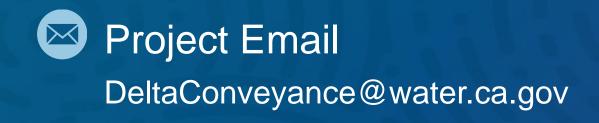
Learn more on the DWR website and stay up to date with news and other information on social media.



- Programs
 - State Water Project
 - Delta Conveyance









Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Notice of Preparation Overview



January 2020

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is pursuing an environmental review process to evaluate a single tunnel option to modernize Delta conveyance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The first step in this process is release of a Notice of Preparation (NOP). The NOP informs agencies and the public about the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and solicits input on the scope and content of the EIR, including information needs, potential project effects and mitigation measures, and possible alternatives to the proposed project.

Modernizing Delta conveyance is part of the state's Water Resilience Portfolio, which describes the framework to address California's water challenges and support long-term water resilience and ecosystem health.

CEQA FAST FACTS

- Who is the CEQA Lead Agency? California Department of Water Resources
- What's in a NOP? A Notice of Preparation includes a description of the Proposed Project, including Project Objectives, Project Area, and Project Facilities, probable environmental effects of the project, scoping meeting details and deadline for submittal of comments.
- What is the Purpose of Environmental Review? Prior to approval of a project, CEQA requires an agency to prepare an EIR that will identify, analyze and disclose the significant adverse environmental impacts of a proposed project, and provide feasible mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid or reduce such effects.
- What Resource Areas will be Studied? The EIR will evaluate topics including but not limited to:
 - water supply
 - groundwater
 - water quality
 - geology and seismicity
 - soils
 - fish and aquatic resources
 - terrestrial biological resources
 - land use
 - recreation
 - aesthetics
 - cultural resources
 - transportation
 - utilities
 - energy
 - air quality
 - noise
 - hazardous materials
 - public health
 - mineral resources
 - climate change and growth

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

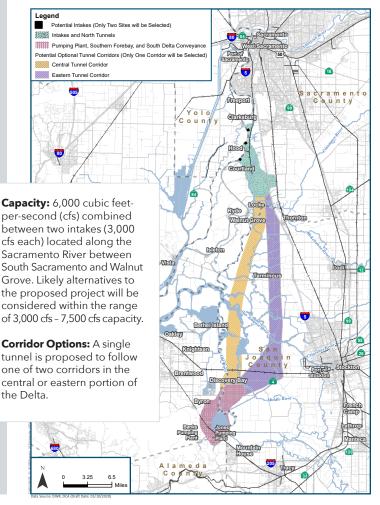
To assist in the development of a reasonable range of alternatives that will be analyzed in the EIR, DWR has identified the following purpose and objectives for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project.

Purpose: Develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of water deliveries in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

Objectives:

- Address sea level rise and climate change
- Minimize water supply disruption due to seismic risk
- Protect water supply reliability
- Provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions in the Delta

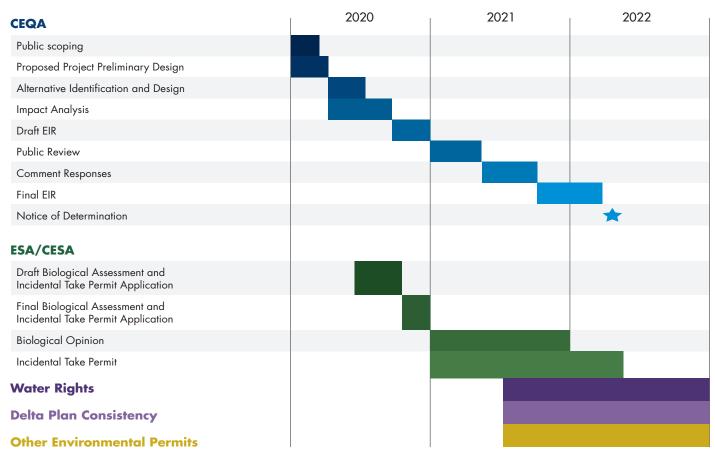
PROPOSED DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT FACILITIES





DELTA CONVEYANCE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MILESTONES

This schedule details the actions associated with the environmental review process under CEQA and other required environmental compliance activities and is subject to change. There are several opportunities for public involvement throughout the process.



HOW TO COMMENT | Comments Due: March 20, 2020

Email: DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov

Mail: Delta Conveyance Scoping Comments, Attn: Renee Rodriguez, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236

Attend a Public Meeting: Several public scoping meetings will be held throughout the state as an opportunity to get information and submit comments on the scope of the EIR.

Sacramento | 2/3/20, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | CA EPA Building | 1001 | Street, Sacramento

Los Angeles | 2/5/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Junipero Serra State Building 320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles

Walnut Grove | 2/10/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Jean Harvie Community Center 14273 River Road, Walnut Grove

San Jose | 2/12/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose

Stockton | 2/13/20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | San Joaquin Council of Governments, Board Room | 555 Weber Avenue, Stockton

Clarksburg | 2/19/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium 52870 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg

Brentwood | 2/20/20, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Brentwood Community Ctr, Conference Room | 35 Oak Street, Brentwood

About Comments

All comments received during the scoping period will be considered in the development of the Draft EIR. DWR is seeking public input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIR and input about alternatives that meet the project's objectives.

For more information, contact:

Para más información por favor llame al Để biết thêm thông tin, xin gọi số Para sa karagdagang impormasyon, mangyaring tumawag sa 如欲瞭解更多資訊, 請致電 Kom tau lus qhia ntxiv, thov hu សំពប់ព័ត៌មានថែមទៀត សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ







Delta Conveyance Notice of Preparation and Public Scoping: Q&A January 2020

1. What is the purpose of the NOP?

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) is for the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for modernized water infrastructure in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, initiating the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOP signals the start of the scoping period, providing an opportunity for public and agency comment on the scope and content of the CEQA review, including the potential environmental impacts of a proposed single tunnel conveyance project and range of alternatives that will be analyzed in the EIR.

2. What is the importance of Delta Conveyance?

The Delta is a primary thoroughfare for water that is conveyed through the State Water Project. Rain and snow from the Sierra Nevada mountains flow through the Delta, where, consistent with water right and state water quality requirements, it is delivered by state and federal agencies to more than 27 million Californians and 3 million acres of farmland. The infrastructure that enables the conveyance, or movement, of California's water supply is critical to the health of local communities and the success of our state's economy.

3. Why is this project needed?

The existing water system, with intakes in the southern Delta only three feet above today's mean sea level, is not prepared for a future with climate change and rising sea levels. Pumping restrictions that are a result of diverting supplies at this location continue to prevent the State Water Project from reliably capturing water when it is available, especially from storm events. New diversions in the northern Delta will promote a more resilient and flexible State Water Project in the face of unfavorable future conditions.

4. How is the current environmental review process different than before?

In February 2019, at his State of the State address, Governor Newsom announced that he did not "support WaterFix as currently configured" but does "support a single tunnel." Since then, DWR formally withdrew all WaterFix approvals and environmental compliance documents and initiated a new environmental process to study a single-tunnel proposal under CEQA that continues with the issuance of this Notice of Preparation.

As in previous iterations of Delta conveyance, requirements for environmental analysis, public review and comment will be adhered to as prescribed under CEQA and other permitting processes. The CEQA analysis of the Delta Conveyance Project will make use of previous documentation where it makes sense to do so, and will update data and information, or include new analysis, as appropriate.

5. How does this new Delta Conveyance project differ from the previous California WaterFix project?

The primary difference is that the Delta Conveyance Project is proposed with a single main tunnel, rather than two main tunnels that were included in WaterFix. The proposed project includes two options for tunnel corridors; one is similar to the WaterFix proposed project and the second corridor is closer to Interstate 5. The Delta Conveyance Projects is also smaller in pumping capacity than WaterFix, proposed to be sized to accommodate a total 6,000 cubic feet per second (with two intake facilities) rather than 9,000 (with three intake facilities). (The EIR will likely consider a range of alternative capacities within 3,000 to 7,500 cfs.) The objective of the proposed project is however largely the same as WaterFix: to restore and protect the reliability of water supplies that move through the Delta by adding flexibility with a new point of diversion and new infrastructure.

6. Who will identify the preferred alternative in this environmental review process and make the final decision on size and alignment, the participating water agencies or the state?

DWR is the owner and operator of the State Water Project, and proposed infrastructure upgrades are within the department's purview. DWR is the CEQA lead agency. It will be the State of California, through DWR, the California Natural Resources Agency, and the Governor's Office that will ultimately make final decisions on all aspects of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project.

7. Will the WaterFix environmental analyses be considered in a new Delta conveyance environmental review process?

The 10+ years of scientific study and analyses that supported previous Delta conveyance planning efforts will be considered during this phase of planning and, where appropriate, utilized in the evaluation of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project. DWR will build upon the work already done by utilizing previous analyses, data and methodologies to the extent they are still applicable. However, DWR will update all relevant data and information and include new analysis, as appropriate.

8. Will DWR use the same footprint, assumptions, baseline conditions, environmental setting, alignments, etc.?

Not necessarily. DWR will revisit all previous determinations to assess applicability. The scoping period is an opportunity to weigh in on these matters. Two possible alignment corridors for the proposed project have been identified in the NOP, as has a range for possible capacity alternatives.

9. How many alternatives will be evaluated in the EIR?

DWR will select a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that meet project objectives and present opportunities to reduce impacts, consistent with the requirements of CEQA. The scoping period provides an opportunity for the public to comment on alternatives. Following scoping, DWR will publicize the alternatives it intends to include for detailed evaluation in the Draft EIR.

10. Will the federal government have a role in this process?

In the NOP, DWR states that the Delta Conveyance Project will also involve federal agencies that must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), likely requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Federal Agencies with roles in the project may include approvals or permits issued by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and United States Army Corps of Engineers. To assist in the anticipated federal agencies' NEPA compliance, DWR will prepare an EIR that includes relevant NEPA information where appropriate. Once established, the federal lead agency will publish a Notice of Intent to formally initiate the NEPA process. DWR will coordinate with the federal Lead Agency for NEPA compliance and, if appropriate, will prepare a joint EIR/EIS with the federal Lead Agency.

11. Which public water agencies are participating in the Delta Conveyance Project?

DWR is conducting preliminary contract negotiations with State Water Project contractors to determine a methodology for cost allocation for a Delta Conveyance Project. The Delta Conveyance Project EIR will assess, as part of the proposed project, potential environmental impacts associated with reasonably foreseeable potential contract modifications that were discussed during the preliminary contract negotiations.

12. Are water agencies looking for more water?

The implementation of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project will not involve any new water rights. The goal of modernizing Delta conveyance is to more reliably capture water during and after storm events, and to protect existing supplies from the threats posed by climate change, sea level rise and earthquakes. Separately, public water agencies throughout California are pursuing local supply resiliency projects such as recycling, groundwater recharge, storage and conservation to reduce reliance on the Delta to meet future needs. The Delta Conveyance Project is intended to help protect existing supplies consistent with existing water right amounts.

13. Is the state committed to meaningful public engagement and input?

Absolutely. DWR will be hosting a number of public engagement venues to gain the input of the public on issues related to the Delta Conveyance Project. The primary immediate opportunity will be the public scoping process, as announced in the NOP, that focuses on the scope of the environmental review, including alternatives to the proposed project. DWR will also provide background information on its website and is available to brief groups locally and statewide about the proposed project. In addition, DWR is planning a series of technical workshops during development of the EIR and public meetings after the release of the Draft EIR. Also, Wade Crowfoot, Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, has formed the Secretary's Delta Water Roundtable to provide a forum for direct conversation with Delta leaders on conveyance as well as major issues facing the Delta including but not limited to levees, flood protection, water quality, farmland preservation and aquatic invasive species. For the Delta Conveyance Project specifically, in addition to CEQA, there will be opportunities for public input for other permits or environmental review processes, including those with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Delta Stewardship Council.

14. How was the proposed project capacity chosen?

The NOP defines a proposed project capacity that ensures protection of the state's most vulnerable and importance source of water. It also takes into account: 1) cost effectiveness of the project to the public water agencies funding the project, and 2) permitting needs. There will likely be alternatives considered with a range of capacities within the range of 3,000 cfs to 7,500 cfs. This could allow evaluation of options that may include participation by Central Valley Project (CVP) water agencies.

15. What is the schedule for environmental review?

The environmental review and permitting process is planned to be a three-year endeavor.

16. Will you include a non-structural alternative (e.g. "through-Delta")?

The EIR will look at a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that can achieve the project objectives and avoid or reduce potential significant environmental impacts. The NOP identifies that the EIR will likely include alternatives with varying capacities. The NOP includes two options for tunnel conveyance corridors and there will also be a "no project" alternative included in the evaluation. DWR will identify the alternatives to be evaluated at a detailed level in the EIR following consideration of public input received during the scoping process.

17. Where will your intakes be located?

Based on the proposed project capacity of 6,000 cfs, two intakes have been identified in the NOP at locations based on analysis conducted previously (between Freeport and the confluence with Sutter Slough). DWR believes these locations to meet both the objectives of the project and goal of minimizing fishery-related impacts.

18. What will the project cost be?

There will be a cost estimate, as well as both a Benefit-Cost Analysis and a Financial Analysis, developed during the planning process. At this point, the NOP is a start of the environmental review, which focuses on the relative environmental impacts rather than economic issues. Cost analyses will come later in the process, after a preferred alternative has been selected (which may or may not be similar to the "proposed" project defined in the NOP).

19. Will there be new biological opinions related to the Delta Conveyance Project?

Consistent with Section 7 of the federal ESA, a biological assessment will be developed for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project to determine the adverse effects the project may have on federally listed species and critical habitat. We expect to coordinate with a lead federal action agency to initiate formal consultation and receive biological opinions from both National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service. It is expected that the Section 7 process will yield new biological opinions on the Delta Conveyance Project issued by USFWS and NMFS. In addition, a new incidental take permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will be sought by DWR consistent with the requirements of CESA.

20. How can the public get engaged in Delta flow and water quality impacts? When will there be an operations plan made available?

The State Water Resources Control Board is currently working on updating Water Quality Control Plan standards. DWR will comply with the results of those efforts. Final operational plans specifically for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project will not be determined until after the other permitting processes are complete (including CEQA, CESA, and the Change in Point of Diversion before the State Board). However, preliminary operational assumptions will be included for analysis in the EIR to assist in the assessment of water quality, aquatic resources, hydrodynamic effects on non-project water users, etc.

21. Will this project change water rights? Will it take more water out of the system?

As stated above, DWR is not seeking new water rights, simply a change in the point of diversion for its existing water right. By adding a new point of diversion, the system will have greater flexibility to adapt to climate change, manage rising sea levels, function in the event of a natural disaster, and safely move water during high flow events that are currently out of reach.



Preguntas y respuestas sobre el Aviso de Preparación y Comentario Público del Proyecto de Transporte de Agua por Túnel Único en el Delta, conocido en inglés como, Delta Conveyance Notice of Preparation and Public Scoping

Enero de 2020

1. ¿Cuál es el propósito del NOP?

El aviso de preparación (notice of preparation, NOP) es para el desarrollo de un reporte sobre el impacto ambiental (environmental impact report, EIR) para la modernización de la infraestructura hídrica en el Sacramento-San Joaquín Delta, con lo que se da inicio al estudio de los efectos ambientales, de conformidad con la Ley de Calidad Ambiental de California (California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA). El NOP señala el comienzo del período de comentario público, lo que brinda al público y a cualquier organismo público la oportunidad para hacer sus comentarios sobre la trayectoria y el contenido del estudio de la CEQA, incluidos los posibles impactos ambientales de una propuesta de proyecto de transporte de túnel único y una gama de alternativas que se analizarán en el EIR.

2. ¿Cuál es la importancia del transporte de agua por túnel unico en el delta?

El delta es la vía principal para el agua que es transportada a través del proyecto estatal del agua (State Water Project). La lluvia y la nieve de la Sierra Nevada fluyen a través del delta, donde, en concordancia con el derecho al agua y los requisitos estatales de calidad del agua, se entrega por agencias estatales y federales a más de 27 millones de californianos y 3 millones de acres de tierras agrícolas. La infraestructura que permite el transporte o movimiento de agua de California es fundamental para la salud de las comunidades locales y para el éxito de la economía de nuestro estado.

3. ¿Por qué se necesita este proyecto?

El sistema de agua existente, con puntos de bombeo en el sur del delta a solo tres pies por encima del nivel medio del mar de hoy, no está preparado para un futuro con el cambio climático y el aumento del nivel del mar. Las restricciones de bombeo que son el resultado de desvió de agua en este lugar continúan impidiendo que el proyecto estatal de agua (SWP) tome de manera confiable el agua cuando está disponible, especialmente en casos de tormentas. Nuevas desviaciones en el norte del delta promoverán un proyecto estatal de agua más resistente y flexible frente a futuras condiciones desfavorables.

4. ¿En que difiere el proceso actual de estudio de efectos ambientales del anterior?

En febrero de 2019, en su Memoria y Cuenta del Estado, el gobernador Newsom anunció que no apoya "WaterFix como está configurado actualmente", pero sí apoya "un solo túnel". Desde entonces, el Departamento de Recursos Hídricos (Department of Water Resources, DWR) retiró formalmente todas las aprobaciones de WaterFix y documentos de cumplimiento ambiental e inició un nuevo proceso ambiental para estudiar una propuesta de túnel único dentro del marco de la CEQA, que continúa con la emisión de este aviso de preparación.

Al igual que en las iteraciones anteriores del transporte en el delta, se acatarán los requisitos para el análisis ambiental, el examen y los comentarios del público, según lo prescrito en la CEQA y otros procesos de permisos. El análisis de la CEQA del proyecto de transporte de agua por túnel único en el delta utilizará la documentación previa

cuando tenga sentido hacerlo, y actualizará los datos y la información, o incluirá un nuevo análisis, según corresponda.

5. ¿En qué se diferencia este nuevo proyecto de transporte de agua por túnel único en el delta del anterior proyecto California WaterFix?

La principal diferencia es que el proyecto de transporte de agua en el delta se plantea un solo túnel principal, en lugar de dos túneles principales que se incluyeron en WaterFix. La propuesta incluye dos opciones para corredores de túnel: uno es similar al del proyecto propuesto por WaterFix y el segundo corredor está más cerca de la Interestatal 5. El proyecto de transporte de agua por túnel único en el delta también es más pequeño que WaterFix en capacidad de bombeo, propuesto para ser dimensionado con el fin de acomodar un total de 6,000 pies cúbicos por segundo (con dos instalaciones de captación) en lugar de 9,000 (con tres instalaciones de captación). (El EIR probablemente considerará un rango de capacidades alternativas dentro de 3,000 a 7,500 cfs.) Sin embargo, el objetivo del proyecto propuesto es en gran medida el mismo que WaterFix: restaurar y proteger la confiabilidad de los suministros de agua que se mueven a través del delta al agregar flexibilidad con un nuevo punto de desvío y nueva infraestructura.

6. ¿Quién identificará la alternativa preferida en este proceso de estudio de efectos ambientales y tomará la decisión final sobre el tamaño y la alineación: las agencias de agua participantes o el estado?

El DWR es el propietario y operador del proyecto estatal de agua, y las mejoras propuestas de infraestructura están dentro de la esfera de acción del Departamento. El DWR es la agencia líder de la CEQA. Será el estado de California, a través del DWR, la Agencia de Recursos Naturales de California y la Gobernación, los que tomen las decisiones en última instancia sobre todos los aspectos de la propuesta de proyecto de transporte en el delta.

7. ¿Se considerarán los análisis ambientales de WaterFix en un nuevo proceso de estudio de efectos ambientales con respecto al transporte en el delta?

Los más de 10 años de estudios y análisis científicos que respaldaron los esfuerzos previos de planificación de transporte en el delta se considerarán durante esta fase de planificación y, cuando corresponda, se utilizarán en la evaluación de la propuesta de proyecto de transporte en el delta. El DWR se basará en el trabajo ya realizado al utilizar los análisis, datos y metodologías anteriores en la medida en que aún sean aplicables. Sin embargo, el DWR actualizará todos los datos e información relevantes e incluirá un nuevo análisis, según corresponda.

8. ¿El DWR usará la misma huella, supuestos, condiciones de referencia, entorno ambiental, alineaciones, etc.?

No necesariamente. El DWR revisará todas las determinaciones anteriores para evaluar la capacidad. El período de la evaluación del alcance es una oportunidad para sopesar estos asuntos. Se han identificado dos posibles corredores de alineación para la propuesta de proyecto en el NOP, al igual que un rango para posibles alternativas de capacidad.

9. ¿Cuántas alternativas se evaluarán en el EIR?

El DWR seleccionará una gama razonable de alternativas potencialmente factibles que cumplan con los objetivos del proyecto y presenten oportunidades para reducir los impactos, en concordancia con los requisitos de la CEQA. El período de la evaluación del alcance ofrece una oportunidad para que el público comente sobre las alternativas. Acto seguido, el DWR publicará las alternativas que pretende incluir para una evaluación detallada en el borrador del EIR.

10. ¿Tendrá el gobierno federal un papel en este proceso?

En el NOP, el DWR afirma que el proyecto de transporte en el delta también involucrará a agencias federales que deben cumplir con la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA), lo que probablemente requiera la preparación de una declaración de impacto ambiental (environmental impact statement, EIS). Los organismos federales con funciones en el proyecto pueden incluir aprobaciones o permisos emitidos por la Oficina de Reclamación (Reclamación) de los Estados Unidos y el Cuerpo de Ingenieros del Ejército de los Estados Unidos. Para asistir en el cumplimiento anticipado de la NEPA por parte de los organismos federales, el DWR preparará un EIR que incluya información relevante de la NEPA, cuando corresponda. Una vez establecida, el organismo federal principal publicará un aviso de intención para iniciar formalmente el proceso de la NEPA. El DWR se coordinará con el organismo federal principal para el cumplimiento de la NEPA y, si corresponde, preparará un EIR/EIS junto con el organismo federal principal.

11. ¿Qué agencias públicas de agua participan en el proyecto de transporte en el delta?

El DWR lleva a cabo negociaciones preliminares de contrato con los contratistas del proyecto estatal de agua con el fin de determinar una metodología para la asignación de costos en un proyecto de transporte en el delta. El EIR correspondiente al proyecto de transporte en el delta evaluará, como parte del proyecto propuesto, los posibles impactos ambientales asociados a posibles modificaciones del contrato razonablemente previsibles, que se discutieron durante las negociaciones preliminares del contrato.

12. ¿Las agencias de agua están buscando más agua?

La implementación de la propuesta de proyecto de transporte en el delta no implicará ningún nuevo derecho de agua. El objetivo de modernizar el transporte en el delta es captar el agua de manera más confiable durante y después de las tormentas, y proteger los suministros existentes de las amenazas que plantea el cambio climático, el aumento del nivel del mar y los terremotos. Por separado, los organismos públicos de agua en todo California llevan a cabo proyectos locales de resiliencia del suministro, como reciclaje, recarga de agua subterránea, almacenamiento y conservación, con el fin de reducir la dependencia del delta para satisfacer las necesidades futuras. El proyecto de transporte en el delta tiene la intención de ayudar a proteger los suministros existentes en consonancia con las cantidades correctas de agua.

13. ¿Está el estado comprometido con una participación y contribución pública significativa?

Absolutamente. El DWR organizará una serie de lugares de participación pública para obtener la opinión del público sobre cuestiones relacionadas con el proyecto de transporte en el delta. La principal oportunidad inmediata será el proceso de evaluación del alcance por parte del público, como se anunció en el NOP, que se centra en el alcance del estudio de efectos ambientales, incluidas las alternativas al proyecto propuesto. El DWR también proporcionará información de antecedentes en su sitio web, y está disponible para informar a grupos locales y estatales sobre la propuesta de proyecto. Además, el DWR está planeando una serie de talleres técnicos durante el desarrollo del EIR y reuniones públicas después del lanzamiento del borrador del EIR. También, Wade Crowfoot, Secretario de la Agencia de Recursos Naturales de California, organizó la mesa redonda para el agua del delta con el fin de proporcionar un foro de conversación directa con los líderes del delta sobre el transporte, así como los principales problemas que enfrenta el delta, incluidos, entre otros, diques, protección contra inundaciones, calidad del agua, preservación de tierras de cultivo y especies acuáticas invasoras. Para el proyecto de transporte en el delta específicamente, además de la CEQA, habrá oportunidades para la opinión pública en lo que respecta a otros permisos o procesos de estudio de efectos ambientales, incluidos aquellos con la Junta Estatal de Control de Recursos Hídricos y el Consejo Administrativo del Delta.

14. ¿Cómo se eligió la capacidad del proyecto propuesto?

El NOP define una capacidad del proyecto propuesto que garantiza la protección de la fuente hídrica más vulnerable e importante del estado. También tiene en cuenta: 1) la rentabilidad del proyecto para los organismos públicos de agua que financian el proyecto, y 2) las necesidades de permisos. Probablemente se considerarán alternativas con una gama de capacidades dentro del rango de 3,000 cfs a 7,500 cfs. Esto permitiría evaluar opciones que pueden incluir la participación de las agencias de agua del Proyecto del Valle Central (Central Valley Project, CVP).

15. ¿Cuál es el cronograma para la revisión ambiental?

El estudio de efectos ambientales y el proceso de permisos están planeados para ser un esfuerzo de tres años.

16. ¿Incluirá una alternativa no estructural (por ejemplo, "a través del delta")?

El ElR analizará una gama razonable de alternativas potencialmente factibles que pueden lograr los objetivos del proyecto y evitar o reducir los posibles impactos ambientales significativos. El NOP identifica que el ElR probablemente incluirá alternativas con diferentes capacidades. El NOP incluye dos opciones para corredores de transporte de túnel y también se incluirá una alternativa de "no proyecto" en la evaluación. El DWR identificará las alternativas que se evaluarán en detalle en el ElR luego de considerar la opinión pública recibida durante el proceso de evaluación del alcance.

17. ¿Dónde se ubicarán sus puntos de captación?

Con base en la capacidad en la propuesta del proyecto de 6,000 cfs, se han identificado dos puntos de captación en el NOP en ubicaciones basadas en el análisis realizado previamente (entre Freeport y la confluencia con Sutter Slough). El DWR cree que estos lugares cumplen con los objetivos del proyecto y la meta de minimizar los impactos relacionados con la pesca.

18. ¿Cuál será el costo del proyecto?

Habrá una estimación de costos, así como un análisis de costo-beneficio y un análisis financiero, desarrollado durante el proceso de planificación. En este punto, el NOP es el comienzo del estudio de efectos ambientales, que se centra en los impactos ambientales relativos en lugar de los problemas económicos. Los análisis de costos vendrán más adelante, después de que se haya seleccionado una alternativa preferida (que puede o no ser similar a la "propuesta" de proyecto que se define en el NOP).

19. ¿Habrá nuevas opiniones biológicas relacionadas con el proyecto de transporte en el delta?

De conformidad con la Sección 7 de la Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción (Endangered Species Act, ESA), se realizará una evaluación biológica dentro del marco de la propuesta de proyecto de transporte en el delta para determinar los efectos adversos que el proyecto pudiera tener en las especies incluidas en la lista federal y el hábitat crítico. Esperamos coordinar con una agencia de acción federal líder para iniciar consultas formales y recibir opiniones biológicas tanto del Servicio Nacional de Pesca Marina (National Marine Fisheries Service, NMFS) como del Servicio de Pesca y Fauna Silvestre de EE. UU. (US Fish and Wildlife Service, USFWS). Se espera que el proceso de la Sección 7 arroje nuevas opiniones biológicas sobre el proyecto de transporte en el delta emitidas por el USFWS y el NMFS. Además, el DWR buscará un nuevo permiso de captura incidental del Departamento de Pesca y Fauna Silvestre de California, de conformidad con los requisitos de la CESA.

20. ¿Cómo puede el público involucrarse en el flujo del delta y los impactos en la calidad del agua? ¿Cuándo habrá un plan de operaciones disponible?

La Junta Estatal de Control de Recursos Hídricos está trabajando actualmente en actualizar las normas del plan de control de calidad del agua. El DWR cumplirá con los resultados de esos esfuerzos. Los planes operativos finales, específicos para la propuesta de proyecto de transporte en el delta, no se determinarán sino hasta después de que finalicen los demás trámites de permisos (incluidos la CEQA, la CESA y el cambio en el punto de desvío ante la Junta Estatal). Sin embargo, se incluirán suposiciones operativas preliminares para su análisis en el EIR con miras a la evaluación de la calidad del agua, los recursos acuáticos, los efectos hidrodinámicos en los usuarios de agua que no pertenecen al proyecto, etc.

21. ¿Este proyecto cambiará los derechos de agua? ¿Tomará más agua del sistema? Como se indicó anteriormente, el DWR no busca nuevos derechos de agua, simplemente un cambio en el punto de desvío de su derecho de agua existente. Al agregar un nuevo punto de desvío, el sistema tendrá mayor flexibilidad para adaptarse al cambio climático, controlar el aumento del nivel del mar, funcionar en caso de un desastre natural y mover el agua de manera segura durante eventos de alto flujo que actualmente están fuera del alcance.



Please fill out this request card if you would like to give a verbal comment. Comments are limited to 3 minutes.

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The public scoping period is January 15, 2020 through March 20, 2020

Please provide comments on the scope of issues to be considered in the Delta Conveyance Project environmental analysis. Please print.

Name		Date
Organization	_Email	
Address		
City		

Email comments to DeltaConveyanceScoping@water.ca.gov.

FOLD ALONG DOTTED LINE



Delta Conveyance Project Scoping Comments Attn: Renee Rodriguez Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236

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