

February 2020

Delta Conveyance Project: *Scoping and CEQA*

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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



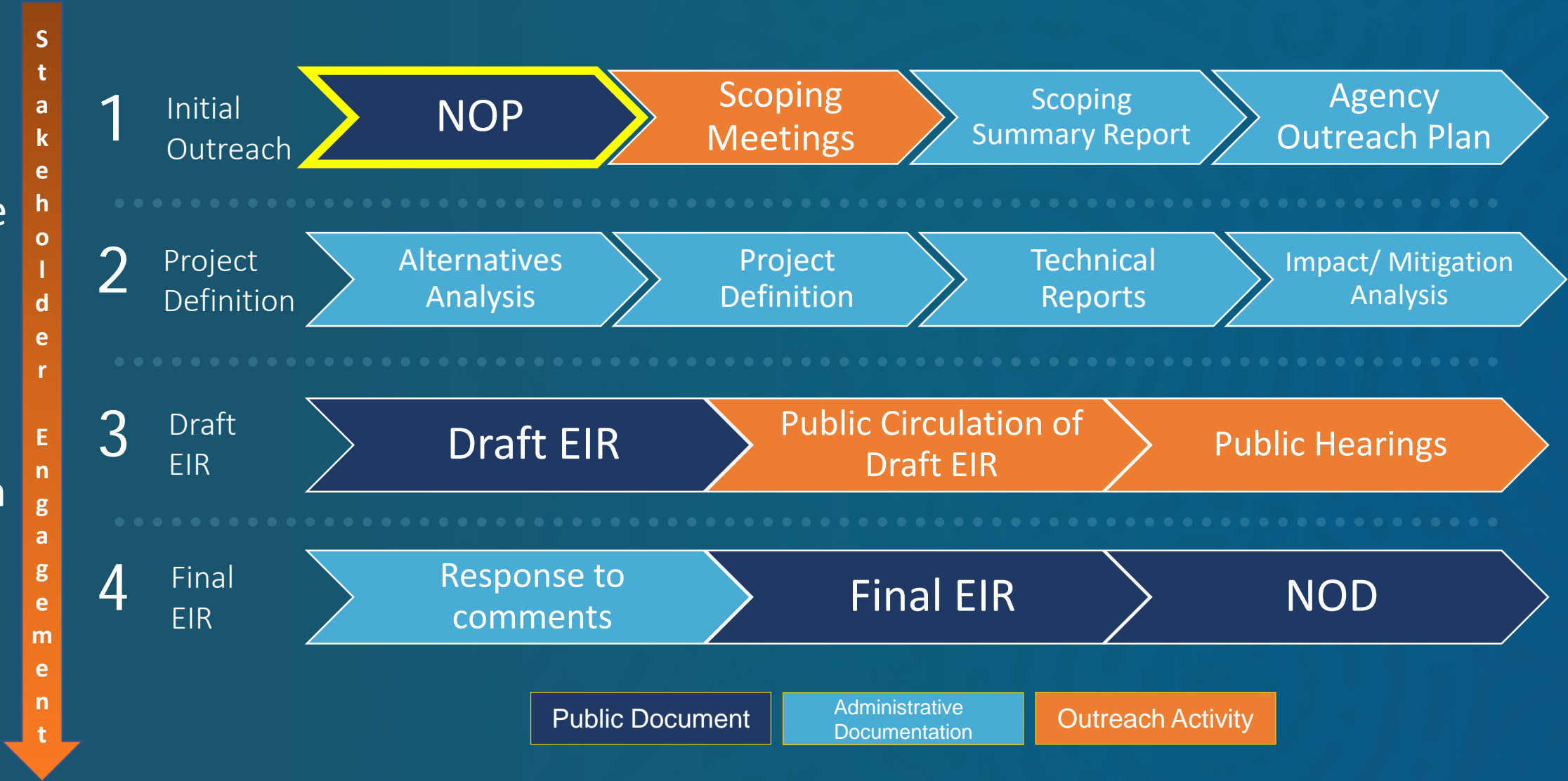
Key Contents of an EIR

- 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:** DWR approved a two-tunnel conveyance project (California WaterFix).
- **February 2019:** Governor Newsom announced his support for a single tunnel conveyance project.
- **April 2019:** Executive Order issued, directing DWR to assess planning for a single tunnel project.
- **May 2019:** DWR withdrew all California WaterFix approval and environmental compliance documentation.
- **January 2020:** 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

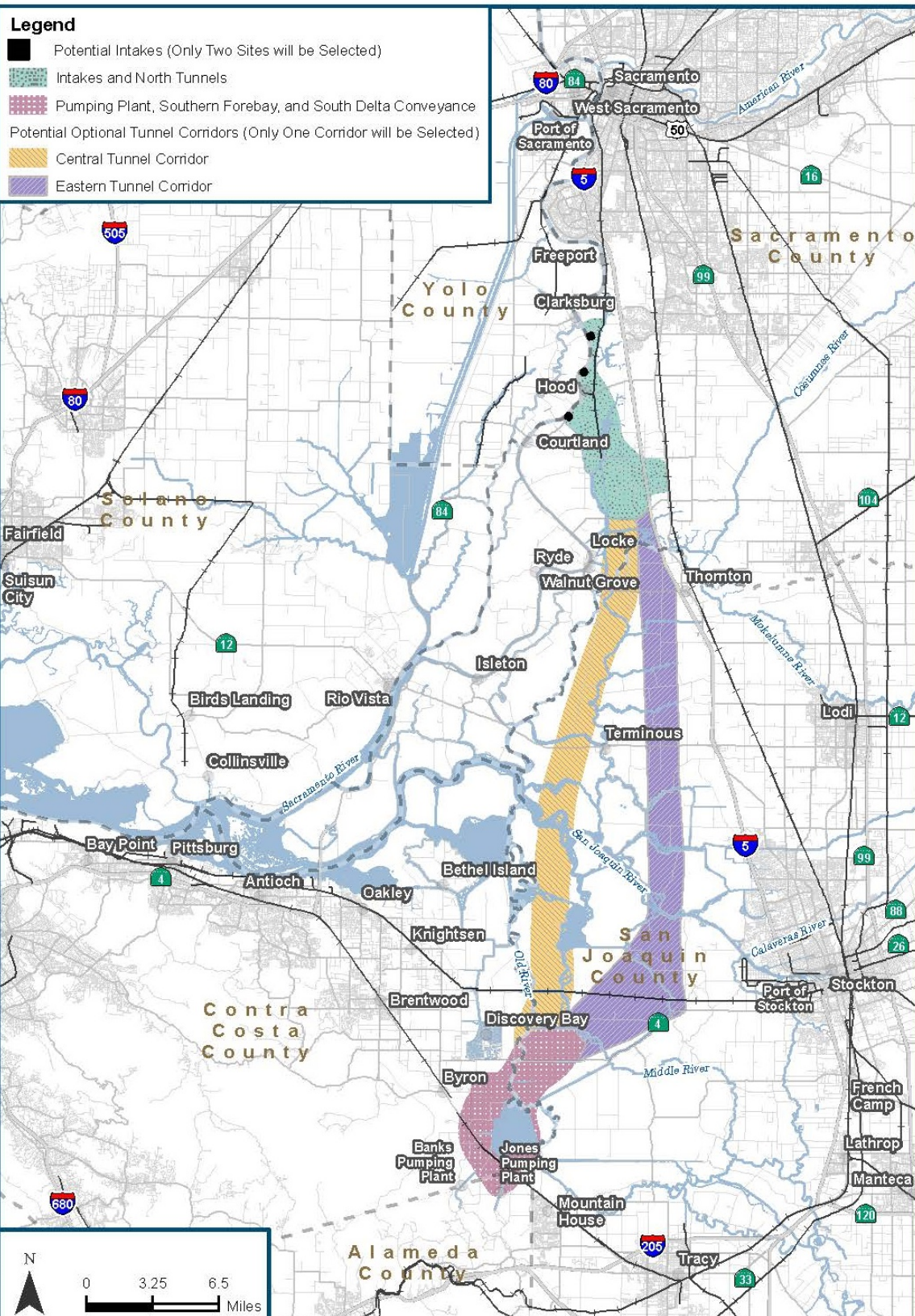


Proposed Project Area

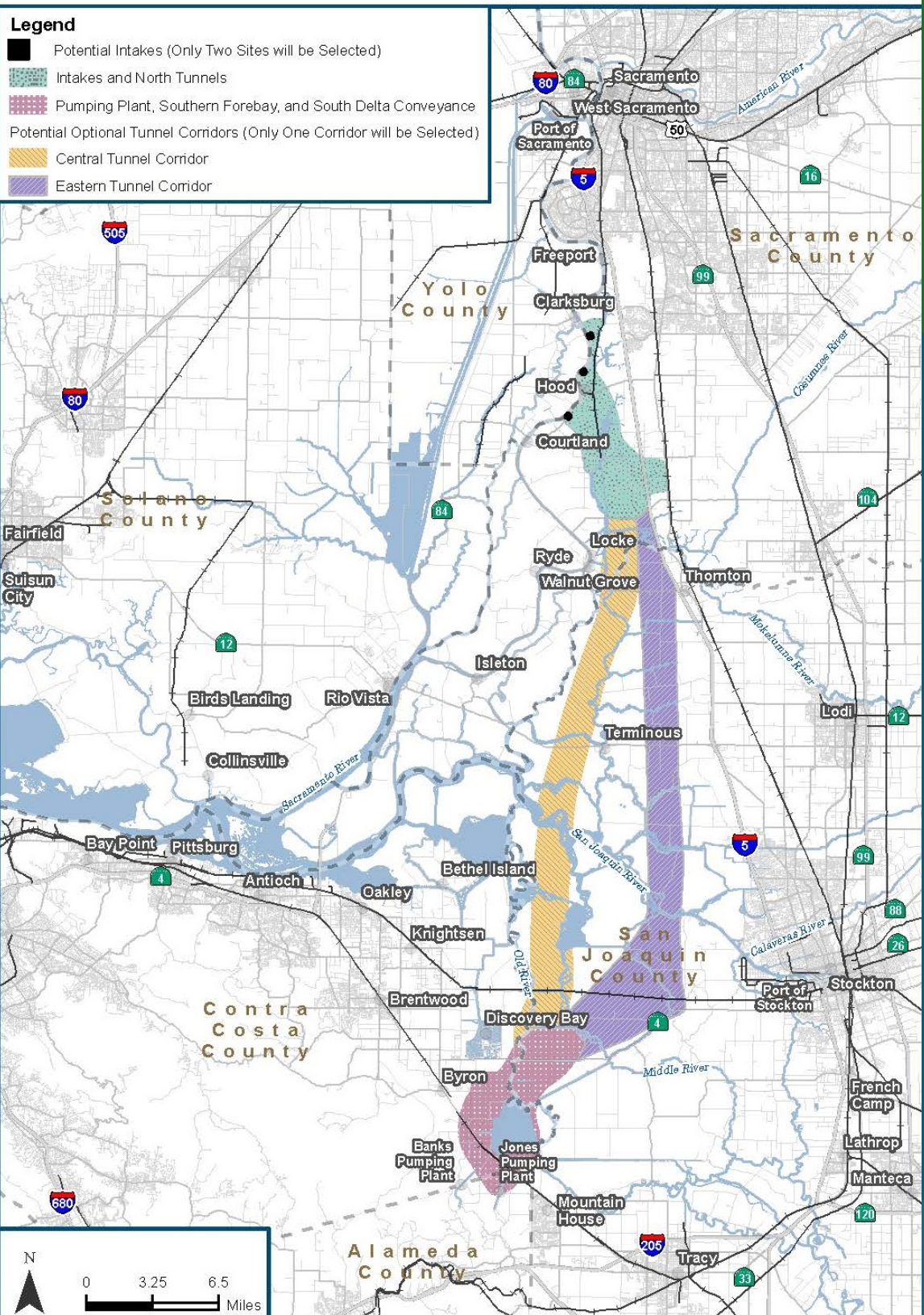
- Upstream of the Delta region
- Statutory Delta
- South-of-Delta



Proposed Project Facilities



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

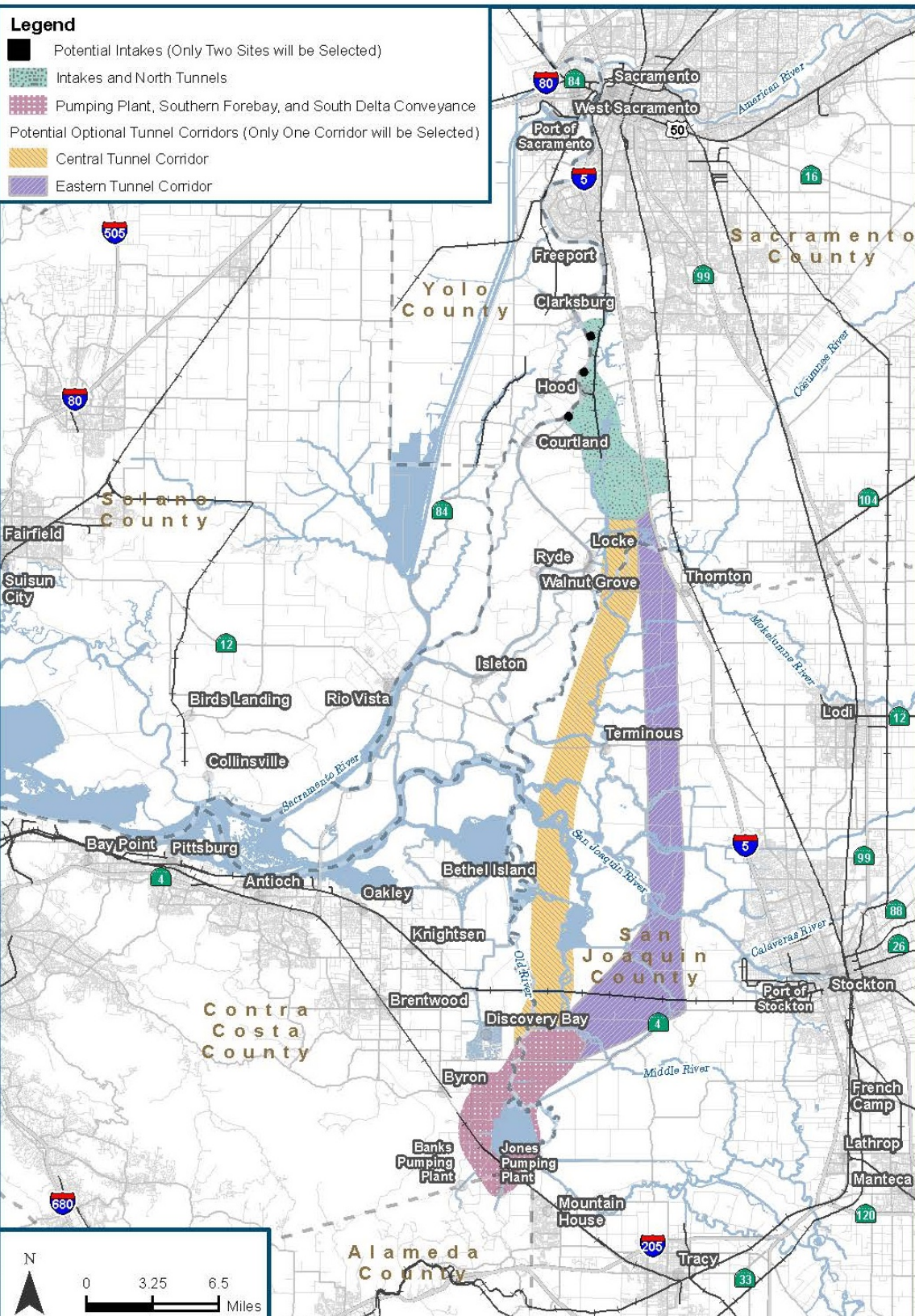


Proposed Project Corridors

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.





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.

WALNUT GROVE

Monday, February 10, 2020
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

SAN JOSE

Wednesday, February 12, 2020
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

STOCKTON

Thursday, February 13, 2020
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CLARKSBURG

Wednesday, February 19, 2020
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

BRENTWOOD

Thursday, February 20, 2020
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

REDDING

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.



water.ca.gov

- Programs
 - State Water Project
 - Delta Conveyance



Project Hotline

866.924.9955



Twitter

@CA_DWR



Project Email

DeltaConveyance@water.ca.gov

