

Delta Conveyance Project

Modernizing California's Water Infrastructure | Last Updated March 14, 2024



Adapting to Climate Change: Catching and Moving Water from Big Storms

Climate change models indicate that precipitation will fall more as rain and less as snow. This creates more runoff and river flows in the winter. The Delta Conveyance Project—a water infrastructure modernization project—will help capture and move excess water and still meet fishery and water quality protections.

The chart below shows diversions made by the Central Valley

Project and the State Water Project (SWP) from the Delta in the 2024 water year, beginning in October 2023. It also shows the theoretical diversions that could have been made to capture excess water by the Delta Conveyance Project. Notably, the Delta Conveyance Project would not have operated until January 1, 2024 to meet fishery and water quality protections.*

Diversions for Water Year 2024 (Estimates through March 14, 2024)

Month	State Water Project Exports* (Acre-Feet)	Central Valley Project Exports ¹ (Acre-Feet)	Theoretical Additional DCP Diversion ² (Acre-Feet)	Surplus DCP Capacity Available for Direct Delivery (Acre-Feet)	South Delta Export Limiting Factors (days in month)
October	99,000	138,000	0*	0	WQ (Fall X2) (1-31)
November	154,000	131,000	0*	0	NDOI (1-30)
December	196,000	183,000	0*	0	NDOI (1-14) WQ (15-31)
January	115,000	200,000	220,000	0	OMRI-5k (1-13), OMRI-5K_SR-3.5K (14-22) IEWPP (23-31)
February	149,000	230,000	322,000	22,000	IEWPP (1-5) OMRI-5K(6) OMRI-3.5K(7-16) OMRI-2.5K(17-29)
March (1-14)	69,000	103,000	19,000	147,000	OMRI-2.5K(1-0) OMRI-0.5K(11-14)
April					
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
Total	781,000	985,000	561,000	169,000	

-Assumes 6,000 cfs DCP diversion capacity

-Estimate based on available water above D-1641 requirements and allowable DCP diversion under the proposed bypass criteria

-Estimates are preliminary and subject to change

¹Diversions from the south Delta ²Additional DCP Diversions for SWP Participants

MISSED OPPORTUNITY

If the DCP was operational during the rain events January 1 - March 14, 2024, we could have moved **730,000 acre-feet of water**

730,000 acre-feet of water = enough water to supply:



or



Limiting Factors Key

WQ: Water Quality (D-1641)

E/I: Export to Inflow Ratio (D-1641)

OMRI-5k: Old and Middle River Index of -5,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP)

IEWPP: Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection (BiOps and ITP) - "First Flush"

OMRI-2k: Old and Middle River Index of -2,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP)

Capacity: Available Facility Capacity

WQ (Fall X2): Summer-Fall Action (BiOps and ITP)

NDOI: Net Delta Outflow Index (D1641)

OMRI-5k_SR-3.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -5,000 cfs (BiOps) with SWP Exports Restricted to OMRI of -3,500 cfs (ITP)

OMRI-3.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -3,500 cfs (ITP)

OMRI-2.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -2,500 cfs

OMRI-0.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -500 cfs

Definitions

BiOps: Biological Opinions issued in 2019 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/National Marine Fisheries Service

ITP: Incidental Take Permit issued in 2020 by California Department of Fish and Wildlife

D-1641: State Water Board Delta flow and water quality requirements

