



IT'S ABOUT RELIABILITY:

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

California's biggest water challenge is in Northern California where the rivers of the Sierra Nevada merge into the vast Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the "hub" of the state's water system. State (State Water Project) and federal (Central Valley Project) water projects draw supplies that travel through the Delta and help sustain California's economy and provide drinking water for more than two thirds of the state's population.

Over the years, the Delta's ecosystem has deteriorated, and its 1,100-mile levee system is increasingly vulnerable to failure caused by earthquakes, floods and other forces of nature. The decline of the Delta's ecosystem has led to historic restrictions in water supply deliveries. The result is a pressing two-fold need: improve California's water reliability and restore the Delta's fragile ecosystem.

Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Federal and state officials, water agencies and other interested parties have undertaken a comprehensive effort to fundamentally and systematically improve both the state's water supply reliability and restore the Delta's ecosystem. This effort is the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), a strategic action plan that will:

- Construct a new conveyance tunnel to protect California's water supply;
- Improve the Delta ecosystem through habitat restoration; and
- Remove pollutants, invasive species and other "stressors" harming the Delta environment.

Without a strategic investment in the Delta, the water supply and ecosystem will continue to deteriorate and jeopardize the delivery of safe, reliable drinking water to 25 million people.

**Be Informed ...
Know the Facts ...
Get Involved ...
Our Future
Depends on It.**

Benefits of the BDCP include:

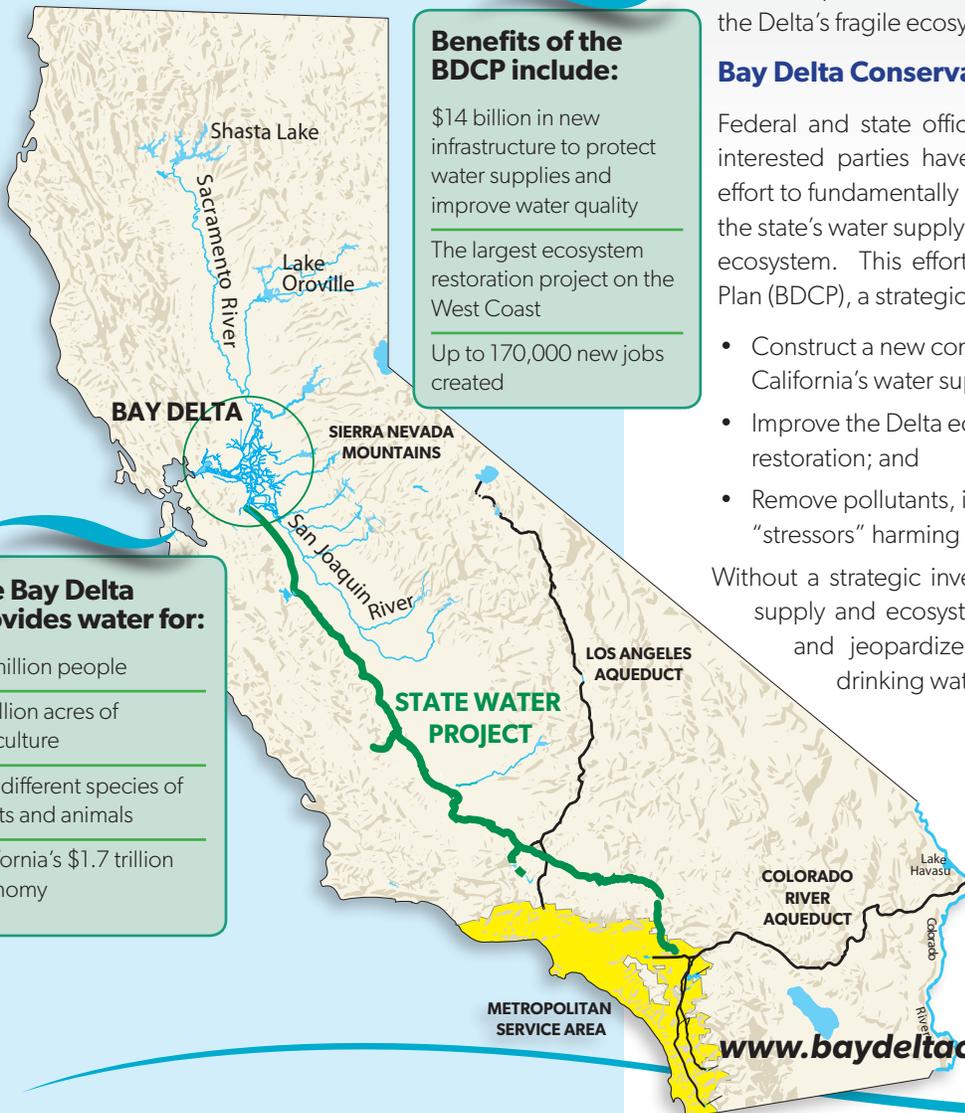
\$14 billion in new infrastructure to protect water supplies and improve water quality

The largest ecosystem restoration project on the West Coast

Up to 170,000 new jobs created

The Bay Delta provides water for:

- 25 million people
- 3 million acres of agriculture
- 750 different species of plants and animals
- California's \$1.7 trillion economy



Proposed Conveyance Features

There are 2 intake points: North (new) and South (existing) for flexible system operations.

The 2 tunnels under the Delta use a smaller footprint than a canal, provide protection from seismic and flood risk, and lessen the impact on the estuary habitat and other land uses.

There is a 9,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) flow, which is gravity-fed allowing for lower energy needs.

The state-of-the-art fish screens at intake points protect aquatic species.



Proposed Ecosystem Improvements

Restoration of 100,000+ acres of habitat including accelerated restoration of 30,000 acres of aquatic habitat

Increased quality, availability, diversity and complexity of Delta habitat

Establishment of more than 200 biological goals supporting species recovery

Programs to reduce toxic pollutants, invasive species, predators and other stressors currently damaging the estuary environment

MEETING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S WATER NEEDS

Metropolitan remains committed to reducing its future reliance on imported water from Northern California. Our Integrated Resources Plan, a comprehensive and strategic long-term water management plan, calls for enhanced conservation, additional recycling and other local efforts to meet new demands. However, the reliability of our traditional imported supplies from Northern California and the Colorado River remain important baselines for Southern California's \$1 trillion economy. Absent a reliable method of storing and delivering adequate supplies when they are available, our system is at risk long-term.

Metropolitan has made a concerted effort to diversify its water resources and improve regional reliability. To sustain California's economy, we must find a balanced solution that restores the Delta ecosystem and assures long-term water supply reliability.

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is the solution.

On average, the cost of the BDCP conveyance for Southern Californians is \$5-\$6 per month, per household.

About Metropolitan

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-chartered cooperative of 26 member agencies – cities and public water agencies – that serves nearly 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

700 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
P.O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153
(213) 217-6000 | (800) call mwd (225-5693)

www.mwdh2o.com | www.bewaterwise.com

