

Comparing Futures for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

This project is a follow-up to the Public Policy Institute of California report *Envisioning Futures for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*, released in February 2007. The study unites the same interdisciplinary team of researchers as the first report, from the University of California, Davis and PPIC.

The project will:

- (i) Compare promising long-term Delta solutions in terms of ecosystem, water quality, and economic outcomes under different scenarios of climate change;
- (ii) Assess the regulatory implications of different management alternatives, and
- (iii) Provide a framework and tools for choosing among long-term strategies under uncertainty.

We are focusing on analysis of the long-term condition of the Delta, particularly with sea level rise, and its implications for the environmental and statewide economic performance of strategic Delta alternatives, including continued in-Delta pumping, a peripheral canal, "dual" export intakes, and no Delta exports.

This effort is considerably more quantitative and analytical than the first report, with as much in-depth analysis as can be done in a few months. Analytical tools and information resources include:

- hydrodynamic modeling of water management and sea level scenarios;
- hydro-economic models of water delivery quantity and quality costs and benefits; and
- interviews and workshops with experts on the Delta ecosystem, water quality management, and the regulatory environment.

Products will include a short report for a policy audience and more detailed technical appendices. The report and appendices will be peer reviewed. These products will be available in summer 2008.

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Draft outline of report and technical appendices

Main report
Summary
1) Introduction
2) Managing the Inevitable in the Delta
3) Delta Water Export Strategies
4) Hydrodynamics and Water Quality Implications
5) Ecosystem Implications
6) Economic and Water Delivery Implications
7) Policy and Regulatory Challenges
8) Strategic Decision Analysis
9) Conclusions and Recommendations
Technical Appendices
1) Levee Decisions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta
2) Delta Hydrodynamics and Water Quality Implications
3) Future of the Delta Ecosystem and its Fishes
4) An Expert Survey on the Viability of Delta Fish Populations
5) Economic Costs & Adaptations for Alternative Delta Regulations
6) Peripheral Conveyance Design and Implementation Options
7) Delta Drinking Water Quality and Treatment Costs
8) Agricultural Water Quality Costs and the Delta
9) Decision Analysis of Delta Strategies
10) Policy and Regulatory Challenges for the Delta