

Alternatives Issues

General Issues

1. Alternatives need to address striped bass within the context of endangered native fish.
2. Wildlife has been de-emphasized.
3. Can resource agencies provide operating guidelines (in response to real time monitoring) which can remove enough risk to the operation of fish screens on large diversions to justify the large investment (best technology is about 90% efficiency [read 10% take] for a much larger population of smolts and adult fish exposed to the screens, and no ability to screen larvae and eggs).
4. There is a large segment of the Ag industry and public that does not accept that fallowing 800,000 acres (or any smaller amount) can produce any water. Our alternatives only rely on the conserved evapotranspiration and implies that the leaching fraction, tailwater, etc. will still be supplied to the system. How you practically do that is a concern to me.
5. The water transfer issue has not been presented accurately. The existing Delta bottleneck to transfer is not strongly noted in the "considerations" for all non-facilities alternatives nor is the increased capability to facilitate water transfer with new facilities demonstrated well.
6. The "habitat" alternative (4,5,6) do not provide explicit water supply improvement in phase with habitat investment but rely on fishery improvements and consequent relaxation of export ratios.
7. The "Chain of Lakes" alternative has the advantage of multiple diversion points, however, the in-Delta diversions are in prime smelt habitat and the Sacramento River diversion is in a high tidally influenced zone - making it difficult to screen with traditional techniques, though multiple rotating screens may work.
8. The thru Delta conveyance alternative we describe needs to be reworked by technical teams to see if we can make it acceptable to fishery experts - impact of dredging on habitat is the main issue.
9. Dual conveyance has this same issue, though reduced.
10. West-side alternatives need to be beefed up by operating criteria which guarantee that sufficient water remains in the Sacramento River.

11. All non-isolated facility alternatives need to be reviewed by CUWA for their drinking water quality benefits and actions added to reduce ag export salinity.
12. Some of the more unique actions such as ag drainage detention underground and metering to the river and storing Bay area reclamation water for use as outflow were dropped between versions of the alternatives. These need to be reinstated.

Extended Review Team Issues

Fisheries Issues - Environmental Review Team to examine these issues

1. Fish Screen locations, protection of larvae and Delta Smelt, resident fish
2. Impacts of South Delta barriers on fish
3. Impacts of increased winter pumping/south of delta storage on fish transport
4. Shifts in X2 caused by various alternatives
5. Impacts on smelt habitat from west-side alternatives
6. North Delta channel improvements (i.e. any thru Delta alternatives) may affect smelt habitat
7. Shallow water habitat and riparian impacted by new conveyance
8. Multiple hatchery proposals inconsistent with AFRP
9. Fish flushing on the San Joaquin (100 TAF) needs to be reviewed
10. Will chain of lakes or In-Delta storage increase exotic species invasion?
11. Need to integrate wildlife components
12. Need to develop linkage of habitat elements to benefit in other areas

Water Supply Issues

1. Increasing diversion capacity/reclamation projects, etc., will increase demand
2. Water supply implications of alternatives needs to be explored (reliability index, improved supply)
- 3.

Water Quality Issues - Water Quality Review Team to examine these issues

1. Need best way to integrate mine drainage (Iron Mt., Penn) elements of alternatives with existing regulatory efforts
2. Toxicity issues related to diazon

Levee Issues - Levee Review Team to examine these issues

1. Need a priority list for levee stabilization
2. Need to coordinate priority list with proposed habitat work
3. Determine approaches to improve earthquake resistance
4. Determine parameters and details for habitat on levees