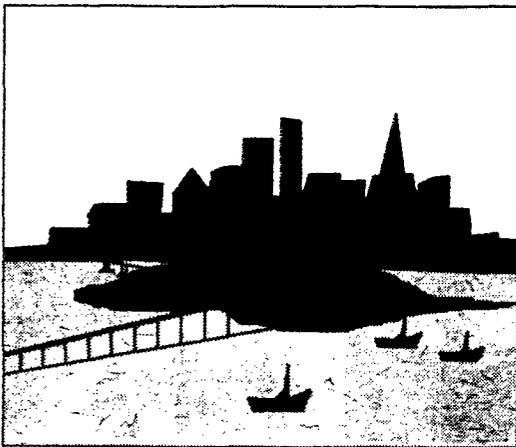


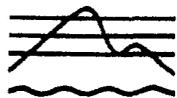
# Water Transfers in California:

## *A Framework for Sustainability and Justice*



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**Table 1**  
**Some Long-Term Water Transfers in California**

Seller	Buyer	Negotiation Time	Date of Agreement	Amount	Period	Price	Type of Transfer	Impetus for Transfer
Coachella Valley Water District <sup>a</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	5 years	1967	61,000 a-f/year	68 years	\$105/a-f	Lease: MWD swaps its Colorado River water for CVWA's SWP water	CVWA did not have the infrastructure to obtain SWP entitlements
Desert Water Agency <sup>b</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	5 years	1967	38,100 a-f/year	68 years	\$105/a-f	Lease: MWD swaps its Colorado River water for DWA's SWP water	DWA did not have the infrastructure to obtain SWP entitlements
Imperial Irrigation District <sup>c,d,e,f</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	5 years	1989	106,000 a-f/year	35 years	\$115/a-f; \$188/a-f for treated water	Conserved water: MWD makes conservation investments in the IID distribution system in exchange for saved water	IID risked losing its entitlements because it was found to be engaged in unreasonable use
Palo Verde Irrigation District <sup>f</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	7 years	1992	93,000 a-f/year	2 years	\$135/a-f	Conserved water: MWD paid PVID to fallow 20,215 acres in exchange for saved water	PVID farmers were faced with economic uncertainties

Sources: (a) D. Mahr, Coachella Valley Water District, personal communication, 1994; (b) M. Bergan, Desert Water Agency, personal communication, 1996; (c) Hundley 1992: 395; (d) NRC 1992: 234-248; (e) Wahl 1993; (f) B. Walthall, Metropolitan Water District, personal communication, 1996.

**Table 2**  
**California Water Transfers In Negotiation**

Seller	Buyer	Date Negotiations Initiated	Proposed Amount	Proposed Period	Proposed Price	Type of Transfer
San Joaquin County et. al. <sup>a</sup>	East Bay Municipal Utility District	1983	300,000 a-f/ year stored 150,000 a-f/ year extracted	> 18 years	under negotiation	Groundwater storage: EBMUD would store water in exchange for the option to extract water during dry years
Arvin-Edison Water Storage District <sup>b</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	1988	128,000 a-f/year	under negotiation	\$90-\$100/a-f	Dry year option/ groundwater storage: MWD would pay to store SWP water in exchange for Arvin-Edison CVP water in dry years
Areias Dairy Farm <sup>c</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	1993	32,200 a-f total	7 of 15 or 9 of 20 years	\$175/a-f	Dry year option: MWD would have the option of requesting Areias' Central California Irrigation District entitlements
Imperial Irrigation District/Bureau of Reclamation <sup>d</sup>	Metropolitan Water District	1993	68,000 a-f/year	under negotiation	under negotiation	Saved water: MWD would finance the lining of the All-American canal in exchange for saved water
Berrenda Mesa Water District <sup>d</sup>	Dublin-San Ramon Services District	1994	40,000-70,000 a-f total	permanent	\$1000/a-f of entitlement	Transfer of water entitlements: Dublin-San Ramon would acquire water rights without purchasing land

Sources: (a) C. Hardy, East Bay Municipal Utility District, personal communication, 1996; (b) J. Malinowski, Metropolitan Water District, personal communication, 1996; (c) Minasian and Meith 1995; (d) L. Diffenbaugh, Devil's Den Irrigation District, personal communication, 1996.