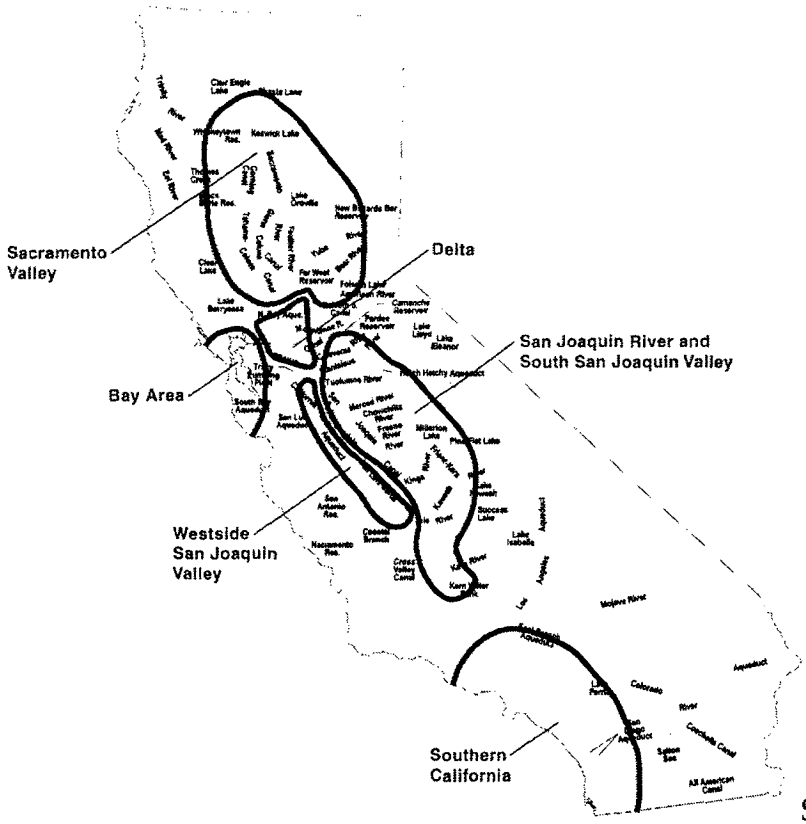
Regional Benefits of The CALFED Program

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is an unprecedented effort to build a framework for managing California's most precisous natural resource: water. The task ahead cannot be underestimated. California, in partnership with the federal government, is launching the largest, most comprehensive water management program in the world.

This summer, CALFED agencies will issue the final programmatic EIS/EIR and a Record of Decision, and begin implementation of Stage 1 – the first seven years of actions that will set forth the direction and build the foundation for long-term actions.



State and federal agencies have proposed a range of actions related to water management and ecosystem restoration that will provide benefits to all Californians. Many of these actions are elements of the CALFED Program. Other actions, such as the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study, are being undertaken by one or more of the CALFED agencies and are being coordinated with other water management and ecosystem restoration actions. Many of these actions will yield statewide benefits. In addition, each region of the state will see specific improvements. Some of these improvements are described below, for six regions: the Sacramento Valley and watershed, the San Francisco Bay area, the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, the east side of the San Joaquin Valley, the San Joaquin Valley west side, and southern California.

Who Depends on the Bay-Delta

- Drinking Water for 22 Million
- 750 Plant & Animal Species
- $27 Billion Agricultural Industry
- Local Homes & Infrastructures
- 80 Percent of the Nation's Salmon Fisheries
- California's Trillion Dollar Economy

The Sacramento Valley and Watershed

Goals

The primary goals for water management and ecosystem restoration in the Sacramento Valley and watershed include:

- Restoring habitat
- Improving water quality and temperature in the Sacramento River
- Improving reliability of the water supply for agriculture and urban users

Strategy

Key measures in the Sacramento Valley strategy include:

- Managing surface and groundwater storage conjunctively (expanded Lake Shasta, Sites Reservoir, locally controlled groundwater storage)
- Allowing users more flexibility to switch between surface and groundwater supplies
- Improving fish passage
- Providing drought-year supplies
- Providing greater transfer capacity
- Restoring degraded salmon/steelhead spawning areas and improving fish access to other areas, working through local partnerships

- Improving flood management
- Developing locally-led watershed programs with multiple benefits

Sacramento Valley Regional Benefits

Principal benefits to the Sacramento Valley region include:

- Improved water supply reliability from conjunctive use, transfers, water use efficiency, potential surface storage
- Improved flood management from watershed management, levee restoration,

potential surface storage, Comprehensive Study
- Improved water quality from source control, mine remediation, water use efficiency
- Improved ecosystem health from habitat restoration, fish barrier removal, hatchery management, water management, potential surface storage
- Responsible water transfers will be facilitated and water supply reliability will benefit through streamlined application process and better information about conveyance opportunities
- Water transfer application information will help prevent negative third-party impacts

The San Francisco Bay Area

Goals

The primary goals for water management and ecosystem restoration in the San Francisco Bay area include:

- Enhance Bay Area urban water quality, reliability, and flexibility
- Restore ecosystem functions and processes that affect the Bay
- Support improved treatment processes

Strategy

Key measures in the Bay area strategy include:

- Constructing interties between Bay Area water districts to improve flexibility and allow blending of water supplies of different qualities
- Providing storage and diversion capacity to capture and manage high-quality source water and to allow export/fishery protection flexibility
- Restoring upstream ecosystem functions and processes
- Supporting development of new water treatment technologies
- Constructing a San Luis Reservoir bypass
- Enhancing conservation
- Constructing the initial phase of the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program

Bay Area Regional Benefits

Principal benefits to the Bay area include:

- Improved water supply reliability from transfers, conservation, recycling,

interconnections, and potential surface storage
- Improved operation of the Delta Cross Channel and/or construction of a through Delta Sacramento River screened diversion will improve drinking water quality
- Improved drinking water quality from source control, interconnections, improved water management, intake relocation, San Luis bypass, improved treatment technologies, potential surface storage
- Improved ecosystem health and fish abundance from upstream actions: habitat restoration, fish barrier removal, hatchery management, water management, source control, mine remediation, potential storage

The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

Goals

The primary goals for water management and ecosystem restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta include:

- Improve in-Delta water quality
- Maintain levee stability

- Preserve Delta agricultural water supply
- Restore ecosystem health

Strategy

Key measures in the Delta strategy include:

- Implementing South Delta Improvements to ensure availability of water of adequate quantity and quality to agricultural diverters within the south Delta while improving flexibility of Delta exports
- Implementing a comprehensive levee system improvement strategy
- Protecting and restoring Delta habitat integrated with flood management

Delta Regional Benefits

Principal benefits to the Delta include:

- Preservation of the "common pool" concept, assuring good water quality for Delta users
- A long-term levee strategy that assures continued security for Delta land uses and water quality
- Improvements in Delta ecosystem health, implemented with a commitment to give first preference to restoration on public lands or through conservation easements rather than land purchase

Westside San Joaquin Valley

Goals

Primary goals for water management and ecosystem restoration in the Westside San Joaquin Valley include:

- Improve the reliability of water supply to agriculture/refuges
- Improve groundwater recharge
- Resolve/implement agricultural drainage solutions

Strategy

Key measures of the Westside San Joaquin Valley strategy include:

- Reducing demands and resulting drainage
- Improving access to transfers and exchanges

- Constructing a San Luis Reservoir bypass
- Restoring deliveries

Westside San Joaquin Valley Benefits

Principal benefits to the Westside San Joaquin Valley include:

- Responsible water transfers will be facilitated and water supply reliability will benefit through streamlined application process and better information about conveyance opportunities
- Through recovery of endangered species in the Bay-Delta system, water supplies can move more efficiently and reliably through the system

- Funding and technical assistance to agricultural users to help them implement more efficient water management practices will help these users improve water supply reliability. Conserved water will be available for use by local communities, or for sale in water market transactions
- Improvements in irrigation management that reduce nonpoint source pollution entering streams, rivers and reservoirs can improve downstream water quality
- Voluntary land retirement programs will increase supply reliability for other local water users. Water from retired lands will remain within the district
- Agricultural drainage controls will improve local water quality
- Implementing BMPs for pesticides use will improve water quality

San Joaquin River and South San Joaquin Valley

Goals

Primary goals for water management and ecosystem restoration in the San Joaquin River and South San Joaquin Valley region include:

- Improve in-stream flows, water quality, and habitat in the San Joaquin River and tributaries
- Improve groundwater recharge, and reliability of water supply to agriculture and refuges
- Provide exchanges and transfers that promote water quality and overcome drought crises

Strategy

Key measures in the San Joaquin Valley strategy include:

- Reestablishing San Joaquin flows through storage management
- Increasing locally controlled groundwater storage
- Restoring habitat in the San Joaquin River and its tributaries while emphasizing flood protection

San Joaquin Valley Benefits

Principal benefits to the San Joaquin Valley include:

- Responsible water transfers will be facilitated and water supply reliability will benefit through streamlined application process and better information about conveyance opportunities
- Water transfer application information will help prevent negative third-party impacts

- Increased locally-controlled groundwater storage will improve water supply reliability and flexibility
- Through recovery of endangered species in the Bay-Delta system, water supplies can move more efficiently and reliably through the system
- Funding and technical assistance to agricultural users to help them implement more efficient water management practices will help these users improve water supply reliability. Conserved water will be available for use by local communities, or for sale in water market transactions
- Watershed programs above the Delta that manage nonpoint source pollution and reduce pollutants entering streams, rivers and reservoirs will improve downstream water quality
- Agricultural drainage controls can improve local water quality
- Implementing BMP's for pesticides use will improve water quality
- Improved flood management from implementation of the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study

Southern California

Goals

Primary goals for water management in Southern California include:

- Improve the quality of imported water supplies
- Develop water treatment technologies
- Increase water supply and reliability

Strategy

Key measures in the Southern California strategy include:

- Promoting and expanding water use efficiency programs, including reuse and recycling programs
- Supporting development of new water treatment technologies for municipal uses
- Implementing water quality programs to improve Bay-Delta water quality
- Streamlining water transfer processes

Southern California Benefits

Principal benefits to Southern California include:

- Improved water transfer process will benefit water supply reliability
- Recovery of endangered species in the Bay-Delta system will reduce the conflict between fisheries and water suppliers
- Support for urban water use efficiency programs will improve the availability of

water supply. Demonstrable water use efficiency is essential to the approval of additional surface water storage projects.

- Improving and maintaining Delta levees will protect water quality and supply
- Watershed programs above the Delta that manage nonpoint source pollution and reduce pollutants entering streams, rivers and reservoir can improve downstream water quality, reduce treatment costs, and increase water recycling opportunities
- Improved operation of the Delta Cross Channel, and/or construction of a through Delta Sacramento River diversion, will improve drinking water quality
- Conveyance improvements in the Delta, such as channel enlargements, fish screens, dredging, will improve water supply reliability
- Storage facilities north and south of the Delta can be managed to improve water quality and water supply reliability, and could provide additional supply
- Improved decision-making process for operations will provide water quality and water supply reliability improvements

- Controlling salinity in the Delta will improve water quality and utility