

DRAFT
Early Actions
Lower San Joaquin River/South Delta Bundle

Rev. 3/9/99 @1500

1. Proceed with VAMP in 1999.
2. Model proposed 1999 operations, with and without VAMP, by March 15 to quantify potential impacts of various scenarios and develop an operational plan which mitigates for impacts which may be identified. Establish a monthly review process to track actual operations.
3. Develop specific action plans to formulate a comprehensive solution:
 - Resolve by May 1999 the South Delta Barrier or alternatives strategy as part of the South Delta Improvements Program.
 - Develop a strategy to achieve and maintain adequate water quality in the south Delta region.
 - Develop a specific plan to address low dissolved oxygen concentrations in the vicinity of Stockton.
4. Evaluate, and if appropriate, dredge south Delta channels to improve water movement.
5. Expedite the evaluation of recirculating water pumped from the Delta by the CVP and/or SWP down the San Joaquin River to help meet flow and water quality requirements.
6. Develop a long-term plan describing San Joaquin River Group actions to improve water management practices such as conservation and conjunctive use of surface and groundwater resources. The plan should also describe how State and Federal funds provided as part of the VAMP agreement will be allocated to meet this objective.

File: VAMP
smb

DWR Process for Modeling 1999 Operations
(Item 2 of the Early Actions, Lower San Joaquin River/South Delta Bundle)

Detailed computer model forecasts comparing the operation of the San Joaquin River with and without the spring pulse flow have been developed by the San Joaquin River Group Authority in coordination with the USBR, DWR, and other signatories to the Statement of Support for the San Joaquin River Agreement. These studies will be distributed to interested parties at a meeting of the No Name Group (a sub-group to the CALFED Ops Group) later this week. Presenting the San Joaquin operations forecast to the No Name Group will provide interested parties an opportunity to identify potential negative impacts to river flows throughout the year and reservoir carryover storage. Any concerns about potential impacts will be addressed in the CALFED Ops Group meeting on March 23. Should significant concerns remain, they will be elevated to the CALFED Agency Group.

Two ways for permanently incorporating interested third parties into the assessment of impacts and development of the associated mitigating actions are being explored. One way would be to appoint third-party interest representatives to the Technical Committee of the San Joaquin River Agreement. The other process would create a sub-group to the Ops Group.