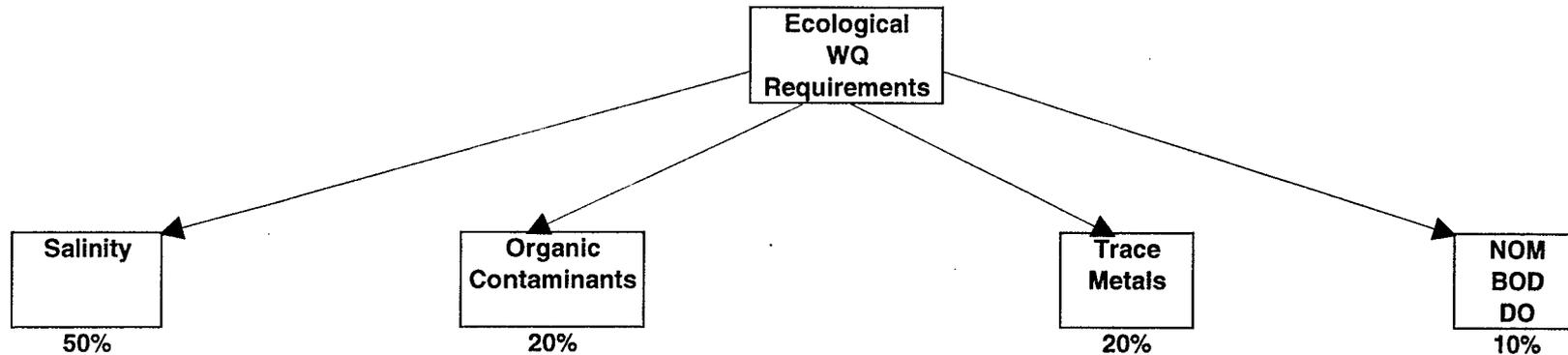


Objective: Provide improved Delta water quality for environmental needs.



Bay-Delta Ecological Water Quality Requirements

Capability of Actions to provide water of adequate quality to meet the ecological requirements of the plant, animal, fish and bird species dependent on the Bay-Delta system and correct any existing water quality problems impairing biological productivity.

Key components of the performance measure include ability to:

- Reduce the incidence of excessive salinity levels (from ocean and land-derived salts) that can lower biological productivity, harm, or otherwise impair uses of Delta habitats by plant, animal, fish and bird species
- Reduce the incidence and mass loadings of excessive or persistent concentrations of organic contaminants (such as pesticides, herbicides, and industrial chemicals) that are believed to cause acute or chronic toxicity problems, or bioaccumulate to adverse levels in the tissues of plant, animal, fish and bird species.
- Reduce the incidence and mass loadings of excessive concentrations of heavy metals or other trace minerals (such as copper, lead and selenium) that are believed to cause acute or chronic toxicity problems, or bioaccumulate to adverse levels in the tissues of plant, animal, fish and bird species.
- Reduce mass loadings of organic materials in areas subject to excessive concentrations of substances exerting high levels of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) to the point of reducing dissolved oxygen levels in the water column below 5mg/L.

Degradation of Delta water quality occurs from sources 1) within the Delta, and 2) upstream of the Delta.