

Agricultural Land and Water Use Impacts

Outstanding Issues

1. What is the habitat water demand, compared to irrigated agriculture? Specific types of habitat, and total program? *Internal- new chart*
2. How many acres, in the total project area, and in individual counties, are estimated to be converted from agriculture to habitat uses? *New table, ERP Strategic Plan, ERP staff*
3. Check and correct the existing water allocation for the 45,000 acres of drainage-impaired lands. *Internal, Water Districts*
4. What are the ag impacts of land retirement (drainage-impaired) S. of Delta? *IFL Maps,*
5. What are the financial and tax impacts to local government from ag land conversion to habitat? To levee and reclamation districts? *See Hatchett response; too specific*
6. When habitats are created, how will "safe havens" be created on adjoining farmlands to protect them from species spillovers, and incidental take? *ERP Strategic Plan, ERP staff*
7. How will each of the alternatives affect the pricing of water, and thus ag lands that may be forced from production due to costs? *Ag Econ issue; no loss of farmland*
8. What are the impacts to agriculture from water transfers (there will be some)? *Ag Econ- no loss of ag land*
9. The document mentions creation of new irrigated ag lands. Where will the water for these lands come from? *Is this still a valid mitigation measure?*
10. The value of crops, particularly in the San Joaquin Valley, is underestimated, as are economic multipliers. *Ag Econ-, UC Extension (Stanislaus)*
11. The amount of ag land conversions, and economic impacts, should be detailed by County, and shown for the legal Delta, instead of aggregating them with other large regions. *Not possible without specific project locations; identify counties in each region*
12. Cooperatively-managed lands (for wildlife uses) will have reduced yields, and thus cause economic impacts. *ERP staff, Ken Trott DOC*
13. What will be impacts to Williamson Act lands? *Not possible at Program level- mention impact*
14. An Alternative should be developed that will avoid or minimize impacts to ag lands, even if all program goals are not met. *Not one of the program alternatives- see Alternatives section.*
15. How much will water use efficiency measures save farmers, by increasing yield and viability? *Ag Econ issue*

Other Significant Issues

1. Show GP designations for affected areas. *Check with DOC; otherwise, County Planning staff (a real resource-intensive task)*
2. Show and use latest agricultural land information. *IFL maps*
3. Identify lands that could be irrigated, or otherwise improve agricultural productivity. *Greg Posely or Molly Penberth, DOC, or CDFA*
4. Who will benefit in the San Joaquin Valley from storage and conveyance? *Can't say at Program level*
5. What are the N. Delta salinity numbers (S. Delta #'s are included)? *Pertinent?*
6. Consider private, farmer-initiated restoration programs to meet some of the program goals. *Mitigation*
7. Will seepage from newly-created wetlands affect adjacent farms? *ERP staff*
8. Ag groundwater rights may be impacted by conjunctive use. *Water Use Efficiency staff, SWRCB staff*
9. Consider ag land losses from CALFED together with CVPIA ag land losses. *Ray- cumulative*

Table 8.1.1-3 - Water Pricing - Update?

Agricultural Social Issues

Outstanding Issues

1. Using correct multipliers for ag land economic losses will increase the number of ag jobs to be lost. *UC Extension study*
2. Water transfers could idle farmlands, in turn resulting in lost ag and ag support jobs. *Internal, speculative*

Within the five Delta counties, Solano has lost _____ acres, mostly to urbanization since

3. Aggregating ag land and job losses into large regions masks the localized impacts; should be shown by County. *Not possible without project definition; can segregate by affected counties; remains and outstanding issue*
4. Job creation from intensive irrigation water management is not shown. *Call commentors?*