

About the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

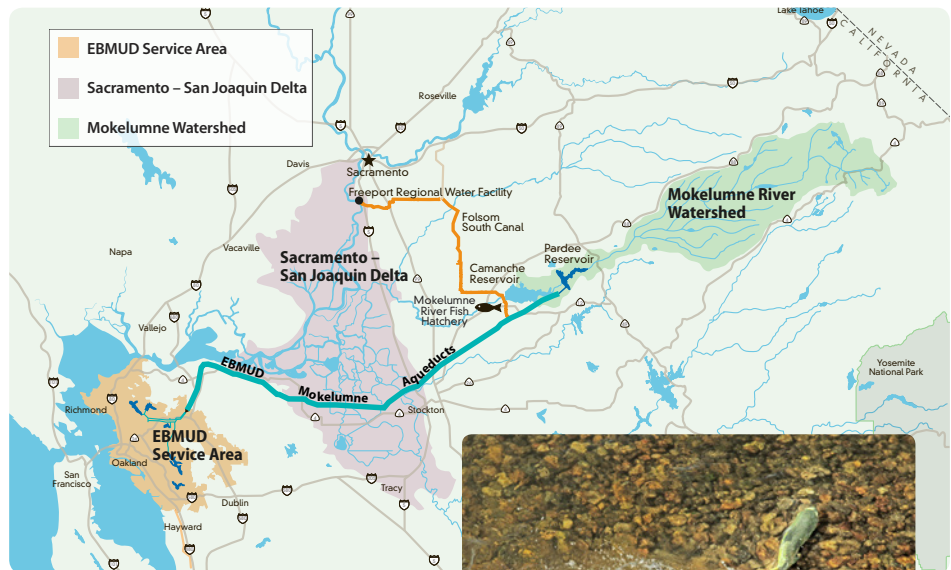
The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta provides habitat for about 500 plant and animal species. Its levees are critical to commercial fisheries and agriculture. Essential infrastructure that moves water, fuel, electricity and goods across islands and levees crisscrosses the Delta. Three million Bay Area residents and 22 million Southern Californians rely on the Delta for drinking water, but the system for pumping water from the Delta harms the fisheries and ecosystem of this vast, environmentally fragile area.

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is an effort to restore the Delta ecosystem and provide more reliable public water supplies from the Delta.

Our Commitment to the Delta

Although EBMUD's aqueducts cross the Delta, EBMUD does not deliver Delta water to customers. EBMUD's primary source of water is the Mokelumne River, which is one of the smallest tributaries to the Delta. To reach the East Bay, water from the Mokelumne River travels 90 miles through aqueducts, crossing 15 miles of low lying Delta islands. In partnership with local interests, EBMUD has invested millions over decades to strengthen the levees that protect these water lifelines.

The amount of Mokelumne River water available to EBMUD customers depends on weather, water rights and flow commitments. To help achieve Delta water quality objectives and protect



EBMUD has invested millions in the lower Mokelumne River salmon fishery, and Delta operations affect the migration of fish from the Mokelumne.



public trust resources, in 1998 EBMUD agreed with state and federal resource agencies to increase flows from its Sierra foothill reservoirs to the lower Mokelumne River at different times of year to improve conditions for migrating fish. The 2014 salmon run continued an unprecedented streak of four consecutive years with more than 12,000 fish returning to the Mokelumne. Despite a prolonged drought since 2011, these record-breaking years are a testament to the partnership efforts led by EBMUD.

BDCP and EBMUD's Delta Principles

The BDCP's preferred approach is to divert water from the Sacramento

River, south of Freeport, using several large intake facilities, and move that water south through two large tunnels underneath the Delta. EBMUD and other agencies whose water supplies originate upstream of the Delta support the BDCP goals of improving the Delta ecosystem and water supply reliability for those who rely on water exports from the Delta. However, EBMUD and other agencies want firm assurances that the agencies benefitting from new water conveyance facilities also will be responsible for contributing upstream water flows to the Delta and will pay for the facilities that serve their needs. EBMUD ratepayers should not be asked to give up their water to reduce the

EBMUD and the Delta: About the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

These aqueducts are the East Bay's lifeline. EBMUD invests annually in levee improvements, but subsidence in the Delta is affecting the pipes. EBMUD is evaluating investments needed to further protect the East Bay's water supply.



draft of the BDCP and the associated Environmental Impact Report/Statement, documents that totaled tens of thousands of pages, for public review. EBMUD analyzed these documents and offered feedback in a number of areas where EBMUD's operations and finances might be affected.

Due to the substantial number of comments received from the public and from federal agencies, DWR announced in August 2014 that it would recirculate a revised document for additional public review in 2015. EBMUD will review these revisions and make additional comments as needed. EBMUD remains committed to Delta ecosystem restoration efforts and statewide water supply reliability, and supports an equitable financing plan.

environmental harm caused by other water supplies, or to pay more fees for the state to move water south.

In partnership with Sacramento County, EBMUD has invested \$1 billion in an inter-regional water supply facility at Freeport to meet customer needs in dry years. On the same principle of self-reliance and investment, EBMUD supports other agencies funding their own reliability projects, and opposes the use of EBMUD ratepayer funds to subsidize other communities, except for financing for drinking water infrastructure in economically disadvantaged communities.

The Delta in Dry Years

The unprecedented drought that California is experiencing has challenged water managers throughout the state and further illustrates the

importance of developing a viable plan to protect the Delta ecosystem and address water supply issues for Delta-reliant Californians. Exports from the Delta already have been curtailed to levels not seen before.

EBMUD has plans to maintain a viable salmon fishery, despite the extra challenges of the conditions during these critically dry years. For current and future droughts, EBMUD is prepared to draw on its supplemental supplies through its Freeport facility to meet water needs in the East Bay. In turn, a volume equal to 20 percent of this supply will be reserved in the Mokelumne system to augment its flows for dry-year environmental benefits.

What's Next?

In December 2013, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released its

EBMUD provides high-quality drinking water for 1.3 million customers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

EBMUD's award-winning wastewater treatment plant generates renewable energy from waste and protects San Francisco Bay; it serves 640,000 customers.

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