

**Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement
Bay Delta Conservation Plan
Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo Counties,
California**

Prepared by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife (USFWS); the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Federal cooperating agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Nonfederal cooperating agencies: State and Federal Contractors Water Agency, Contra Costa County, Sacramento County, Solano County, Yolo County, Reclamation District 999, Reclamation District 150, Reclamation District 551, Reclamation District 3, North Delta Water Agency, and Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority.

This Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) is prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the NEPA procedures of Reclamation, USFWS, and NOAA. Additionally, this EIR/EIS is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines.

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) proponents—the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and six State Water Project and Central Valley Project water contractors—are applying for incidental take permits (ITPs) from USFWS and NMFS pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). As a required component of the application for the ITPs, and to support the issuance of these permits for a term of 50 years, the BDCP has been prepared. The BDCP is a comprehensive conservation strategy for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta (Delta) to advance the planning goal of restoring ecological functions of the Delta and improving water supply reliability in the state of California.

The NEPA Lead Agencies (Reclamation, USFWS, and NMFS) and the CEQA Lead Agency (DWR) have prepared this EIR/EIS to evaluate and disclose the potential effects on the human environment of issuing the requested ITPs. In addition to evaluating the potential effects of implementing the BDCP, the EIR/EIS evaluates a range of alternatives to the proposed action, as well as a no-action alternative, as required under NEPA.

This EIR/EIS focuses on the regional effects of implementing the BDCP, emphasizing effects on water supply, surface water, groundwater, water quality, geology and seismicity, soils, fish and aquatic resources, terrestrial biological resources, land use, agricultural resources, recreation, socioeconomics, aesthetics and visual resources, cultural resources, transportation, public service and utilities, energy, air quality and greenhouse gases, noise, hazards and hazardous materials, public health, minerals, paleontological resources, environmental justice, and climate change, as well as additional topics (such as cumulative effects and growth) required under NEPA and CEQA.

Comments must be received by April 14, 2014.

For further information regarding this EIR/EIS, contact Ryan Wulff, National Marine Fisheries Service, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100, Sacramento, CA, telephone 916/930-3733.