

Bay Delta Conservation Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

Substantive Changes in Public Draft (Dec 2013) since 2nd Administrative Draft (May 2013)

Section	Section Title	Summary of Change
<i>General – Multiple Chapters</i>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis updated for Alternative 4 for most resource areas in response to optimized CM1 alignment • Revisions in response to agency comments
<i>Executive Summary – Added since May 2013 Draft</i>		
Throughout		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial revisions to text to better synthesize document
ES.9	Comparisons of the Alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added section to provide narrative comparison of Alternatives • Inclusion of Table ES-9 summarizing impacts under all alternatives
<i>Chapter 3: Description of Alternatives</i>		
3.5.9	Alternative 4 – Dual Conveyance with Modified Pipeline/Tunnel and Intakes 2, 3, and 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text and figures updated for Alternative 4 in response to optimized CM1 alignment
3.6.2	Conservation Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised descriptions of conservation measures consistent with revisions in the HCP
<i>Chapter 5: Water Supply</i>		
5.3.3	Effects and Mitigation Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWR prepared new text to discuss potential impacts of water transfers associated with proposed project • Removed language making NEPA findings
<i>Chapter 7: Groundwater</i>		
7.3.3	Effects and Mitigation Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised impact conclusion and discussion regarding interference with drainage based on further discussions between technical experts and DWR engineering (now identified as a “significant and unavoidable” impact associated with Alternative 4).
<i>Chapter 8: Water Quality</i>		
8.1	Readers’ Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section added to provide summary of chapter and assist readers in navigating the content of the chapter.
8.4.3	Effects and Mitigation Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisions to mercury and selenium assessments based on additional analysis requested by agencies • Added modeling results for salinity at Emmaton compliance point in response to agency comments

Section	Section Title	Summary of Change
<i>Chapter 11: Fish and Aquatic Resources</i>		
11.3.4	Effects and Mitigation Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated temperature analysis to include thresholds requested by NMFS. • Revised the upstream salmonid migration evaluation to include analyses of Sacramento and San Joaquin River-based fish separately. • Revised NEPA conclusions based on USFWS comments for delta smelt and longfin smelt rearing and migration for all alternatives (Impact AQUA-5, Impact AQUA-6, and Impact AQUA-22). • Revised Non-Covered Aquatic Species of Primary Management Concern analysis with respect to distribution and potential effects on these species
<i>Chapter 12: Terrestrial Biological Resources</i>		
12.0	Readers' Guide and Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved readability by adding a Reader's Guide and a summary of the chapter, including a comparison of the 15 action alternatives and No Action
12.3.3	Effects and Mitigation Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandhill cranes - A more robust discussion of indirect effects to sandhill cranes was included and the NEPA conclusions for all effects on greater sandhill crane for all action alternatives were changed from "not adverse" to "no determination". • For Alternatives 4 and 1B, the direct and indirect effects on greater sandhill crane were substantially modified to reflect a much more detailed AMM to address effects on roosting and foraging habitat, and a revised noise analysis. Mitigation measures were added to ensure near term protection of high to very high value foraging habitat, and to ensure no net loss of crane use on Staten Island (Alternative 4) and Brack Tract (Alternative 1B). • Several impacts regarding CMs 2-22 impacts on habitat (nontidal perennial freshwater emergent wetland, vernal pool complex natural community, grassland natural community) were changed from "beneficial" to "less than significant" to make findings more conservative. • Revised several "significant and unavoidable" impacts on nesting raptors to be "less than significant" based on revised approach to avoiding and mitigating potential impacts. • The effect on connectivity between giant garter snake populations in the east Delta from construction of CM1 in Alternatives 1B, 2B and 6B was changed from significant and unavoidable to less than significant. This change was based on the professional opinions of agency biologists. • For all action alternatives, the impact on bearded popcornflower from implementing CM2 was changed from significant to no impact, based on revised data.
Section	Section Title	Summary of Change

<i>Chapter 20: Public Services and Utilities</i>		
20.3.3.9	Alternative 4 – Dual Conveyance with Modified Pipeline/Tunnel and Intakes 2, 3, and 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised impact conclusion and discussion regarding fire station in Hood in response to optimized alignment (no longer identified as a “significant and unavoidable” impact associated with Alternative 4)
<i>Chapter 22: Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases</i>		
22.3.3.9	Alternative 4 – Dual Conveyance with Modified Pipeline/Tunnel and Intakes 2, 3, and 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised impact conclusions and discussion regarding health risks in the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in response to optimized alignment (now identified as a “significant and unavoidable” impact associated with Alternative 4) Revised impact conclusions and discussion regarding criteria pollutants in the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District in response to optimized alignment (no longer identified as a “significant and unavoidable” impact associated with Alternative 4)
<i>Chapter 30: Growth Inducement and Other Indirect Effects</i>		
30.3.6	Environmental Impacts Relating to Water Transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section added to provide discussion of potential effects from water transfers (moved from individual resource chapters in favor of a consolidated discussion in this chapter)
<i>Chapter 31: Other CEQA/NEPA Required Sections</i>		
31.5.2	Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion regarding mitigation measures with potential for significant environmental effects under CEQA or adverse effects under NEPA included.
31.4 (Table 31-1)	Summary of Significant and Unavoidable Adverse Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of a table summarizing significant and unavoidable impacts under Alternative 4
<i>Appendices</i>		
Appendix 1E	Water Transfers in California: Types, Recent History, and General Regulatory Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix added by DWR to provide background information regarding water transfers
Appendix 3A	Identification of Water Conveyance Alternatives, Conservation Measure 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional discussion of recent proposals (i.e. “portfolio” approach) in alternatives screening appendix
Appendix 3B	Environmental Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised and added environmental and “other” commitments in response to agency comments (e.g. commitment to reuse RTM, inclusion of DOC in other commitments related to water quality)

Section	Section Title	Summary of Change
Appendix 5A	BDCP EIR/EIS Modeling Technical Appendix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section D added at the request of federal lead agencies to provide additional background information related to modeling
Appendix 5C	Historical Background of Cross-Delta Water Transfers and Potential Source Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix added by DWR to provide discussion of water transfers across the Delta

Appendix 5D	Water Transfer Analysis Methodology and Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix added by DWR to assess the potential for additional water transfers associated with implementation of BDCP
Appendix 11D		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix prepared that includes mean temperatures by month and water year type for all locations evaluated in the analysis
Appendix 31A	BDCP Later CM Activity Environmental Checklist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix added to discuss which actions under CMs 2-22 could require future CEQA/NEPA. Prepared in response to input from DWR counsel.

Acronyms and Definitions

AMM – Avoidance and Minimization Measures

CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act

CM- Conservation Measure

DOC- Dissolved organic carbon

DWR- California Department of Water Resources

ES- Executive Summary

HCP – Habitat Conservation Plan

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

NMFS- National Marine Fisheries Service

RTM- Reusable tunnel material

USFWS- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service