The environmental review process to support the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is being conducted by five state and federal agencies. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead developing the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) leads developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The California Department of Fish and Game is a responsible agency on the EIR.

Agencies developing the EIR/EIS will evaluate ecosystem restoration and water conveyance alternatives identified by the BDCP. The agencies will also evaluate additional alternatives identified through the environmental review process under CEQA and NEPA. In addition, DWR formed the Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program (DHCCP) to provide engineering and real estate services in support of the environmental review process.

The BDCP was formed in 2006 and is comprised of a 26-member Steering Committee including federal and state agencies, environmental organizations, fishery agencies, water agencies, and other organizations.

The goal of the BDCP is to restore habitat within the Delta in a way that reliably delivers water throughout California. The BDCP is being developed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCPA), and is undergoing extensive environmental analysis.

Goals of the BDCP
- Identify conservation strategies to improve the overall ecological health of the Delta.
- Identify ecologically friendly ways to move fresh water through and around the Delta.
- Identify actions to address other stressors.
- Provide a framework to implement the plan over time.

Goals of the Environmental Review Process
- Analyze BDCP-proposed actions and alternatives to those actions through a formal EIR/EIS process.
- Analyze options and consider areas of concern presented by the public during the EIR/EIS process.
- Develop options for habitat restoration and water conveyance.
The Conceptual Options

The Delta supports California's water system by conveying water to 25 million people throughout the state. Proposals to convey water around the Delta are aimed at avoiding sensitive habitat while reliably delivering water.

The conceptual water conveyance options currently under consideration have been previously identified in a variety of planning documents. Potential habitat restoration opportunities are also being considered. These and other options will be evaluated through the EIR/EIS process.

All-Tunnel
- 5 intake facilities with fish screens along the Sacramento River
- 6 pump stations
- 36 miles of canal
- 17-mile tunnel (2 bores, 33 feet inside diameter)
- Forebay with 620 acres of water surface area

West
- 5 intake facilities with fish screens along the Sacramento River
- 6 pump stations
- 38 miles of canal
- 17-mile tunnel (3 bores, 27 feet inside diameter)
- Forebay with 620 acres of water surface area

East
- 5 intake facilities with fish screens along the Sacramento River
- 6 pump stations
- 40 miles of canal
- 4 tunnels (2 miles total in length)
- 8 siphons
- Forebay with 620 acres of water surface area

Through-Delta
- 2 intake facilities with fish screens along the Sacramento River
- 12 miles of canal
- 66 miles of levee retrofit/setback levees
- 9 to 11 operable barriers
- Victoria Canal modification
- New fish salvage facility
- 2 tunnels (4.5 miles total in length)

Dual Conveyance
The Dual Conveyance option will combine portions of the East, West, or All-Tunnel alignments with some components of the Through-Delta alignment.

Intakes*
A number of possible intake locations are being considered in the area from south Sacramento to Hood. River intakes with pumping plants transfer water to conveyance facilities on the East, West, All-Tunnel, Through-Delta, or Dual Conveyance options.

* Not all intake options are shown.

All features shown on this map are conceptual and subject to change.
Habitat Restoration

The Delta is home to hundreds of aquatic and terrestrial species, a number of which are threatened or endangered and whose natural habitats have significantly changed over time. The BDCP is developing habitat restoration plans aimed at improving habitat quality to assist in the recovery of threatened or endangered fish and terrestrial species identified by the Plan. The EIR/EIS will evaluate potential habitat restoration options identified by the BDCP, as well as alternatives to those options, as part of the environmental review process.

Potential habitat restoration options currently under consideration include:

- Floodplain restoration aimed at inundating suitable floodplain habitat during winter and spring for fish-rearing habitat and food base production.
- Intertidal marsh restoration aimed at improving brackish and freshwater intertidal marshes.
- Channel margin habitat restoration aimed at returning suitable sites along the water side of levees to a more natural condition for increased food production, rearing habitat, improved water temperature conditions, and movement corridors for fish.
- Riparian habitat restoration aimed at establishing native vegetation near channels, rivers, and streams.
- Shallow sub-tidal habitat restoration aimed at improving shallow tidal habitats.

Aquatic species to be addressed by the BDCP and evaluated in the EIR/EIS process include:

- Delta smelt
- Longfin smelt
- Winter-run Chinook salmon
- Spring-run Chinook salmon
- Fall-run and late fall-run Chinook salmon
- Central Valley steelhead
- Green sturgeon
- White sturgeon
- Sacramento splittail
- Pacific and river lamprey

The BDCP and the EIR/EIS process will also address terrestrial or land-based species. More information on habitat restoration opportunity areas will be available by late 2009.
The proposed water conveyance options are at the conceptual design stage and could include an open canal, levee retrofitting and setback levees, tunneling, or a combination of these options. The water conveyance options are proposed to match the current pumping capacity of up to 15,000 cubic feet per second. The conveyance facility will be designed to resist damage from earthquakes and flooding, while providing the capability to move water at maximum flows during wet seasons.

**Tunnels**

Tunnels may consist of as many as three separate 27-foot-wide (inside diameter) tunnels constructed side-by-side up to 150 feet below ground.

Additional tunnel options are being considered, including a two-tunnel design (33 feet inside diameter) for an All-Tunnel water conveyance option.

**Intake Options**

Three intake options are being considered, including an on-bank cylindrical screen option, an on-bank screen option, and an in-river screen option. Additional details on the intake options will be available by late 2009.

**BDCP Environmental Review Process**

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