

Track 2: Revisions to the Coordinated Long-term Operation of the CVP and SWP and Related Facilities

DRAFT Initial Ideas

Objective:

- Maximize water deliveries and optimize marketable power generation consistent with applicable laws, contractual obligations, and agreements; and to augment operational flexibility by addressing the status of listed species.

Below is a list of initial ideas for Track 2 based on internal brainstorming, agency discussions, stakeholder workshops, and comments received on previous LTO processes.

Track 2 NEPA will be completed with a largely programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. Analysis would be limited by the schedule. Actions would consist of modifications to Reclamation's Proposed Action in the 2008 Biological Assessment that was used for the 2008 and 2009 BOs, or new components of the proposed action. Elements that continue to show merit but cannot be included in Track 2 due to development timelines may be included in future process, such as ROC on LTO (Track 3).

Possible actions are split into categories of: process, water supply, power, and other stressors.

Process

1. Adaptive Management Framework
 - Protect, Restore, Maintain
 - Structured Decision Making
 - Open collaborative process
2. North of Delta Storage
 - Increase Shasta by 0.5 MAF, 1 MAF, 2 MAF
 - Sacramento River off-stream storage
 - Increase Friant Dam by 1 MAF
 - Increase Folsom Reservoir by 0.2 MAF, 0.4 MAF, 0.6 MAF
 - Trinity River off-stream storage
3. South of Delta Storage
 - Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion
 - Increase San Luis Reservoir by 0.2 MAF, 0.6 MAF, 1.2 MAF
 - Increase Groundwater Storage by 2 MAF, 4 MAF, 6 MAF
 - Reduce demands – desalination, water recycling, etc
4. Conveyance
 - California WaterFix
 - OMR modifications
 - Remove I:E
 - Change Delta Cross-Channel gate closures

- Change Delta outflow / Fall X2
- Possible modifications to the Coordinated Operations Agreement
- Discuss CVPIA 800 TAF – subsumed by ESA obligations
- Water Quality Control Plan Update
- D-1641 without 2008/2009 RPAs
- Expand transfer window

These water supply options would be mixed and matched via a sensitivity study that identifies when NOD, SOD or conveyance become limiting to CVP water supply deliveries.

Power

5. Power Costs

- CVPIA Finance Plan actions described in affected environment
- 10 year average instead of 3 year average for CVPIA Restoration Fund calculation
- Better coordination between state and feds for power
- Evaluate a cap on Aid to Irrigation, or increase in appropriations requests
- Look into other funding sources

6. Power Value

- Renewable Portfolio Standard include large hydropower
- Increase pump storage as generation flexibility
- Time releases to high power values

Other Stressors

7. Habitat Restoration

- More CVPIA gravel augmentation sites / time periods

If time and analytical tools allow, NEPA alternatives would include alternatives with and without other stressors such as predation, invasives, toxins, reduced entrainment in fish screens, habitat restoration, and food production to enable Reclamation to analyze the effects of these other stressors on fish populations as compared to water and power operations. If not, this would be done as part of the adaptive management framework.

Modeling Considerations

- Make sure that transfer volume is large enough
- Consider modeling full contract amounts instead of amounts contractors take

Schedule:

June 2018	Alternatives
Summer 2018	Analysis
June 2019	Final NEPA document/Biological Assessment