

Development of a Drinking Water Policy for Surface Waters of the Central Valley

CEQA Scoping Meeting

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Purpose of Meeting

Solicit public input on environmental impacts and alternatives for improving policies for protecting surface water sources of drinking water of the Central Valley

Overview

- Water Quality Control Regulations
- Problem Statement
- Basin Plan Amendment Requirements & Process
- Project Alternatives
- Schedule
- CEQA Checklist

Water Quality Control Regulations

- Clean Water Act
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Basin Plan
 - Designate Beneficial Uses
 - Establish Water Quality Objectives
 - Describe Implementation Plan
 - Describe Monitoring & Surveillance Program

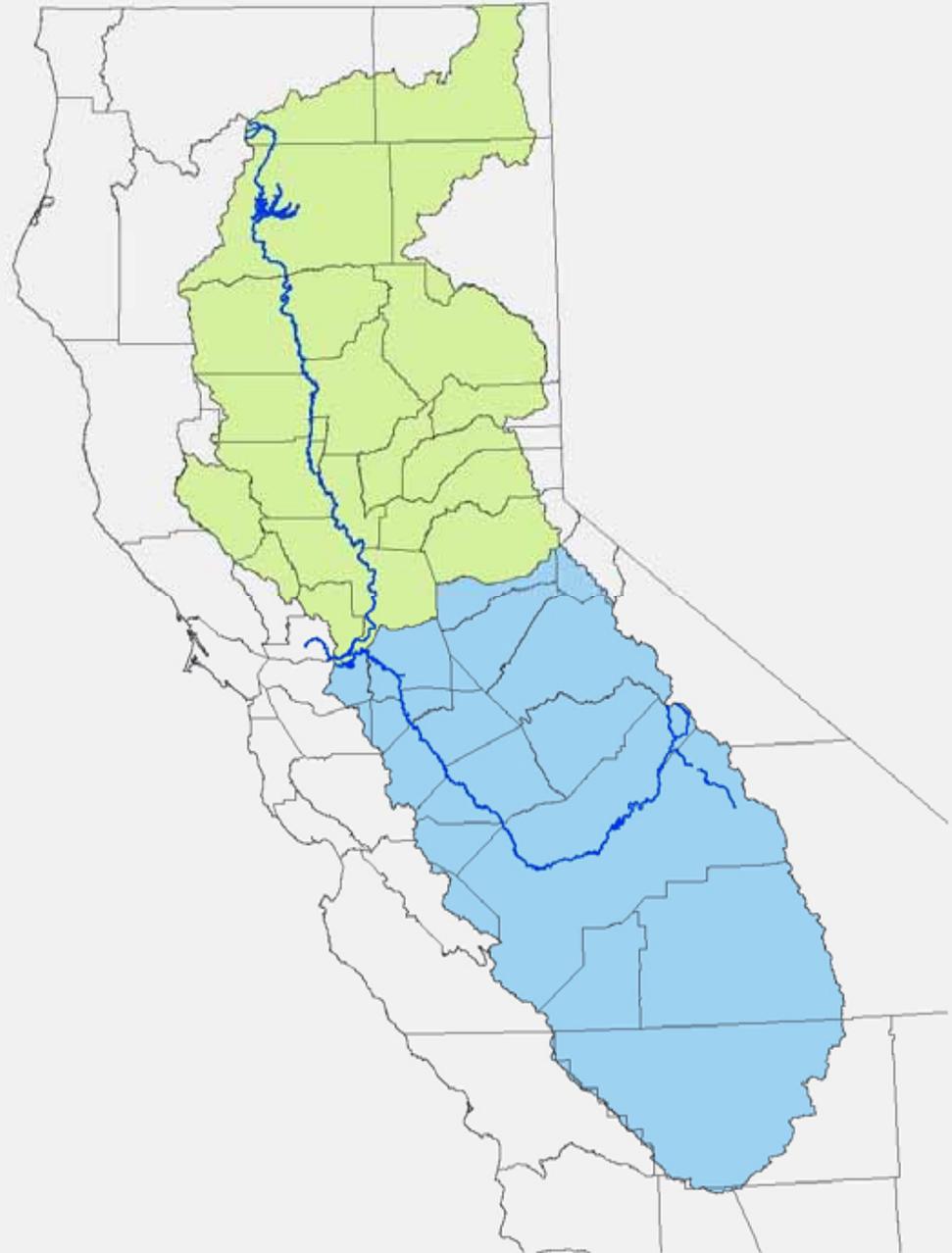
Problem Statement

- Project Area
- Existing Regulations
 - Beneficial Uses
 - Water Quality Objectives
- Current Regulatory Framework
- Potential Conflicts

Project Area

- Surface Waters
- Downstream of Major Dams
- Sacramento River
- San Joaquin River
- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

August 2008



Beneficial Uses

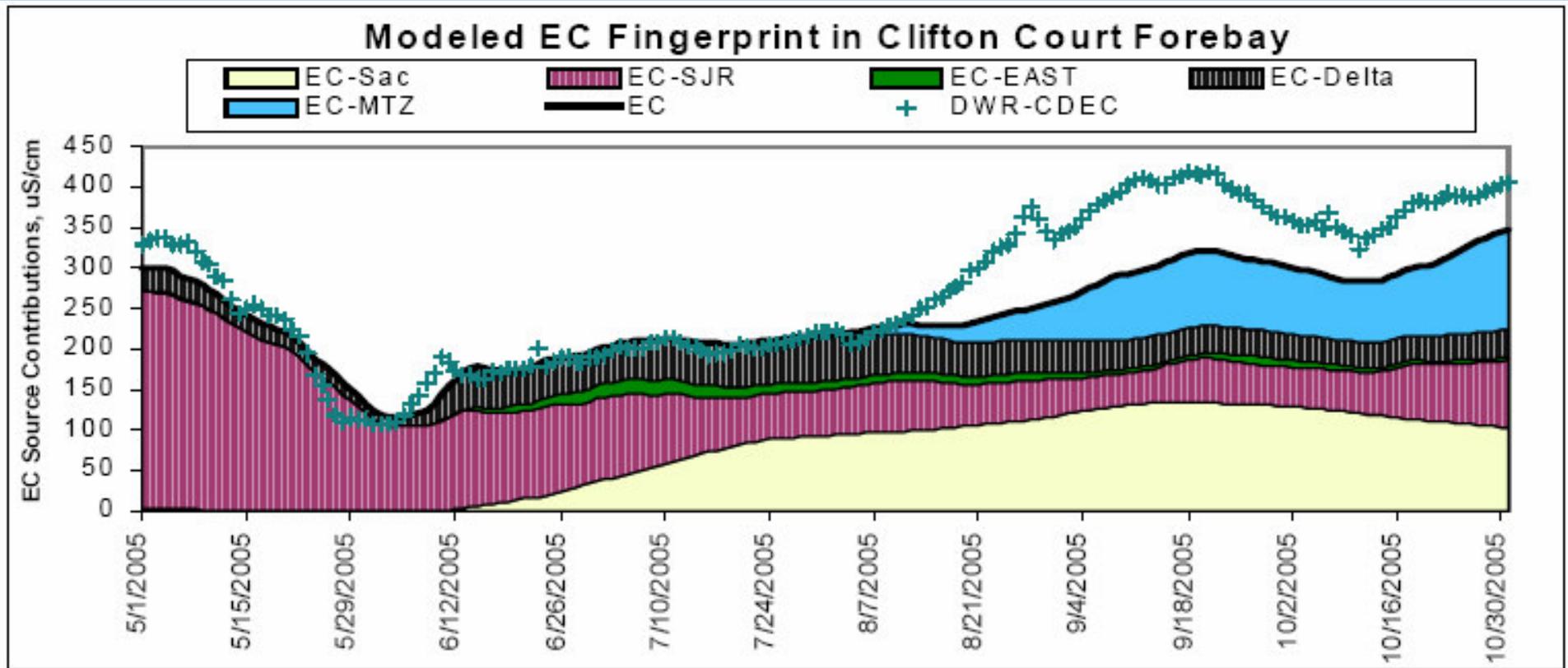
- Sources of Drinking Water Policy
- Basin Plan Tributary Statement
- Municipal & Domestic Supply (MUN)

Water Quality Objectives

- Narrative
 - Toxicity
 - Chemical Constituents
 - Taste & Odor
 - Nuisance
 - Biostimulatory Substances
- Numeric
 - DPH Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)
 - California Toxics Rule

Regulatory Framework: Salinity

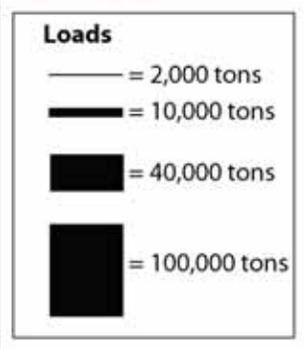
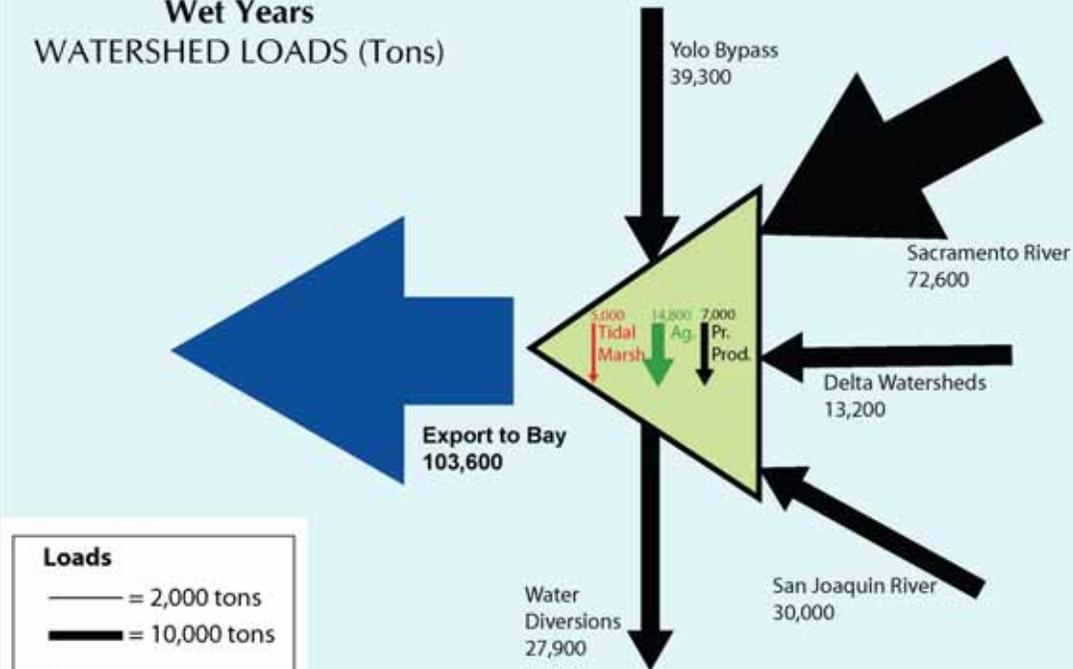
Problem	Unpalatable drinking water, scaling on pipes
Source Regs	Numeric WQO for protecting industrial and agricultural uses
Tap Regs	Secondary MCLs for TDS, EC, Chloride, & Sulfate
Gap	No WQO for drinking water



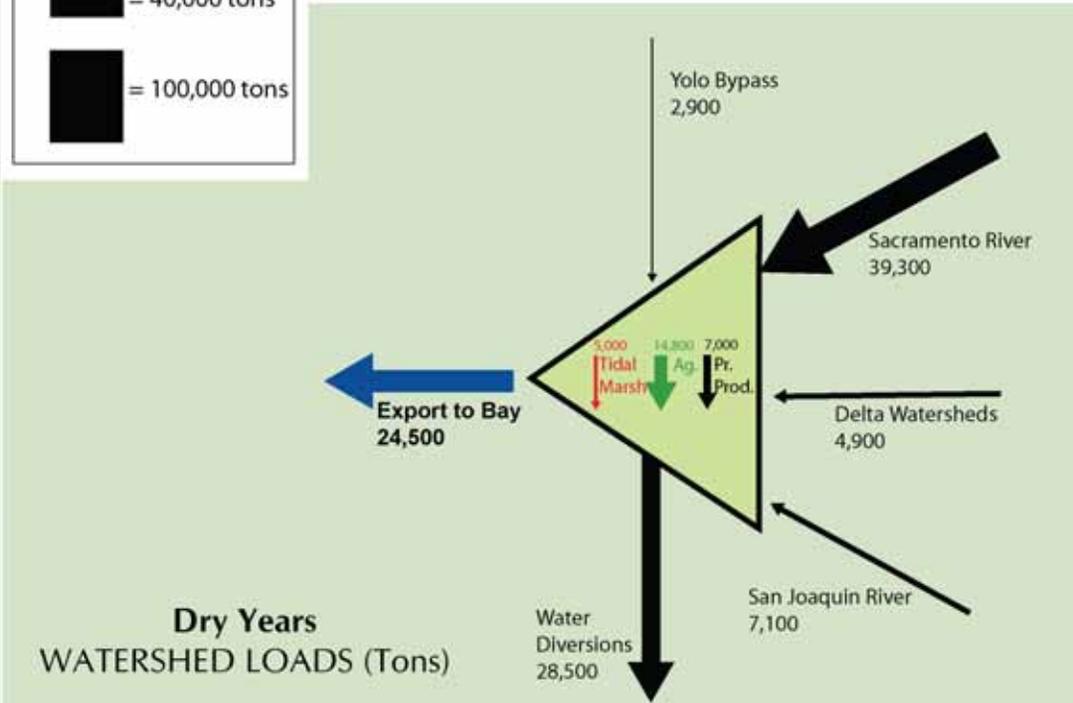
Regulatory Framework: Organic Carbon

Problem	Disinfection by-products
Source Regs	Narrative WQO for chemical constituents
Tap Regs	Water treatment based on source water concentrations
Gap	No numeric target or WQO to interpret narrative

Wet Years
WATERSHED LOADS (Tons)



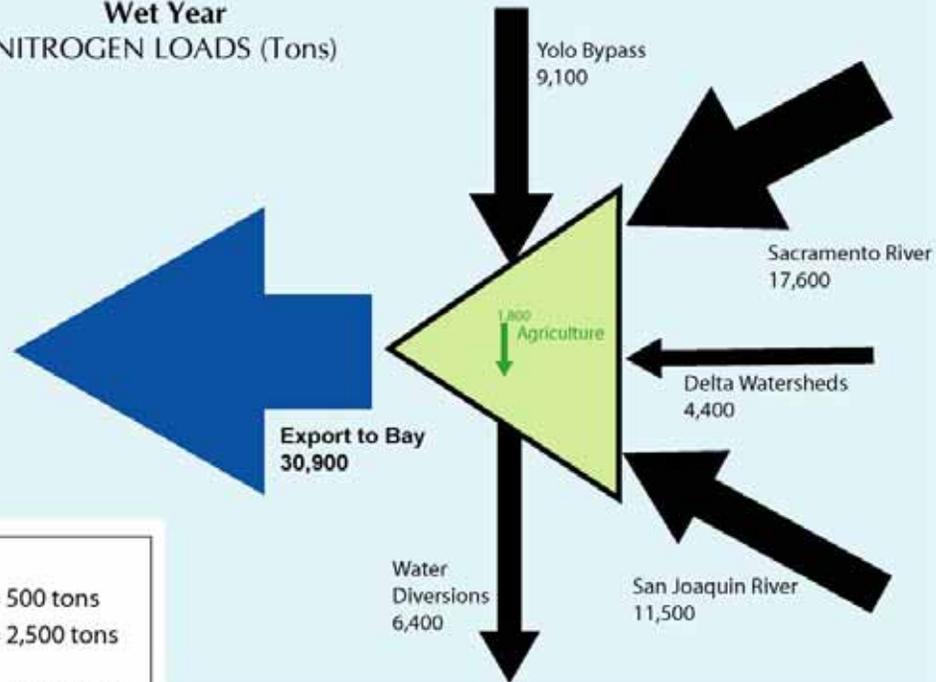
Dry Years
WATERSHED LOADS (Tons)



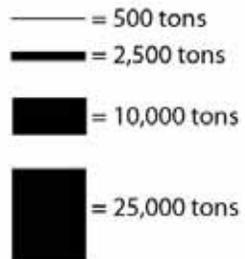
Regulatory Framework: Nutrients

Problem	Contributes to algal blooms
Source Regs	Narrative WQOs for biostimulatory substances, nuisance, & taste/odor
Tap Regs	Secondary MCLs for odor
Gap	No numeric target or WQO to interpret narrative except in TMDLs

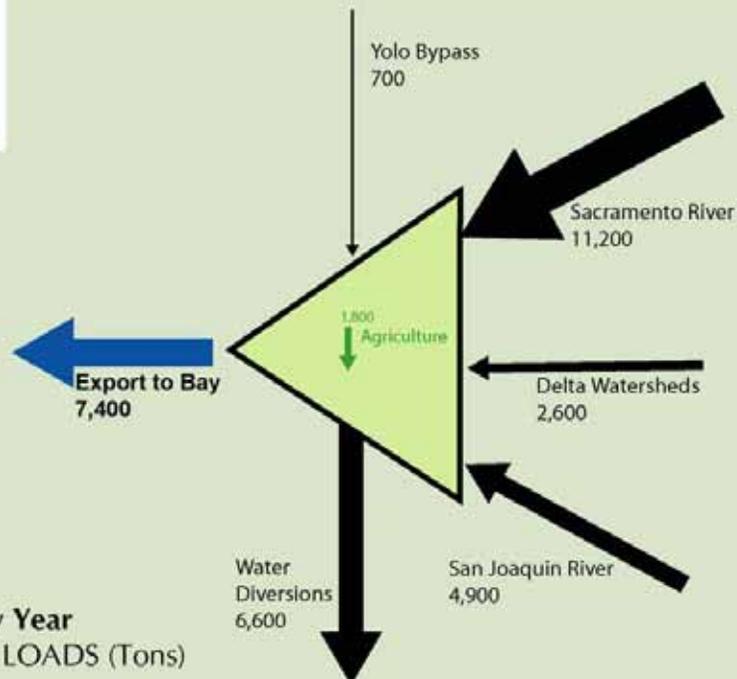
Wet Year
NITROGEN LOADS (Tons)



Loads



Dry Year
NITROGEN LOADS (Tons)



Regulatory Framework: Pathogens

Problem	Cause disease
Source Regs	Numeric WQO for protecting recreational uses
Tap Regs	Water treatment based on source water concentrations
Gap	No WQO for drinking water or for specific pathogens of concern

Potential Conflicts

- Ecosystem Requires Organic Carbon & Nutrients
- Delta Ecosystem Collapse

Basin Plan Amendments: Requirements & Process

- Gather & Evaluate Scientific Information
- Identify Alternatives
- CEQA Scoping
- Develop Staff Report
- Peer Review
- Public Review
- Regional Water Board Hearing
- State Water Resources Control Board Hearing
- Office of Administrative Law approval
- US EPA approval

Alternative 1a

No Action

- No Additional Regulations
- Potential Water Quality Degradation
- Potential Increased Public Health Risk
- Rely on Treatment to Meet Regulations & Manage Risk

Alternative 1b

No Action - Source Monitoring

- Dischargers Required to Monitor
 - Monitoring & Reporting Requirements
 - Phased Approach
- Potential Water Quality Degradation
- Potential Increased Public Health Risk
- Rely on Treatment to Meet Regulations & Manage Risk

Alternative 2

Maintain Current Conditions

- Narrative or Numeric WQO
- No Change in Water Quality
- No Change in Risk to Public Health
- Implementation
 - Dischargers Required to Monitor
 - Water Board Regulatory Programs
 - Watershed Management

Alternative 3

Improve Source Water Quality

- Narrative or Numeric WQO
- Water Quality Improvement for MUN Uses
- Reduced Risk to Public Health
- Implementation
 - Dischargers Required to Monitor
 - Water Board Regulatory Programs
 - Watershed Management

Technical Evaluations

- Gather Existing Data
- Water Quality Modeling
 - Conceptual Models
 - Analytical Models
- Evaluate Control Strategies: Implementation
 - Source Control
 - Drinking Water Treatment

Schedule

- Scoping Meetings – Summer 2008
- Complete Technical Studies – August 2009
- Staff Report – October 2009
- Peer Review – January 2010
- Public Review – April 2010
- Adoption Hearing – June 2010

CEQA Checklist

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural resources
- Air quality
- Biological resources
- Cultural resources
- Geology & soils
- Hazardous materials
- Hydrology & water quality
- Land use & planning
- Mineral resources
- Noise
- Population & housing
- Public services
- Recreation
- Transportation/traffic
- Utilities & sewer services

For More Information

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Website

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water
issues/drinking_water_policy/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/drinking_water_policy/)