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Briefing to the Southern California Water Dialogue

Delta Water Supplies: Current Status

- State reservoirs at lowest level since 1994
- This year's allocation is under 25%
- Next year likely 5% - 15%
- Average under Wanger now 30% less
- Relief under the new biological opinions is speculative
- Why successful BDCP is essential

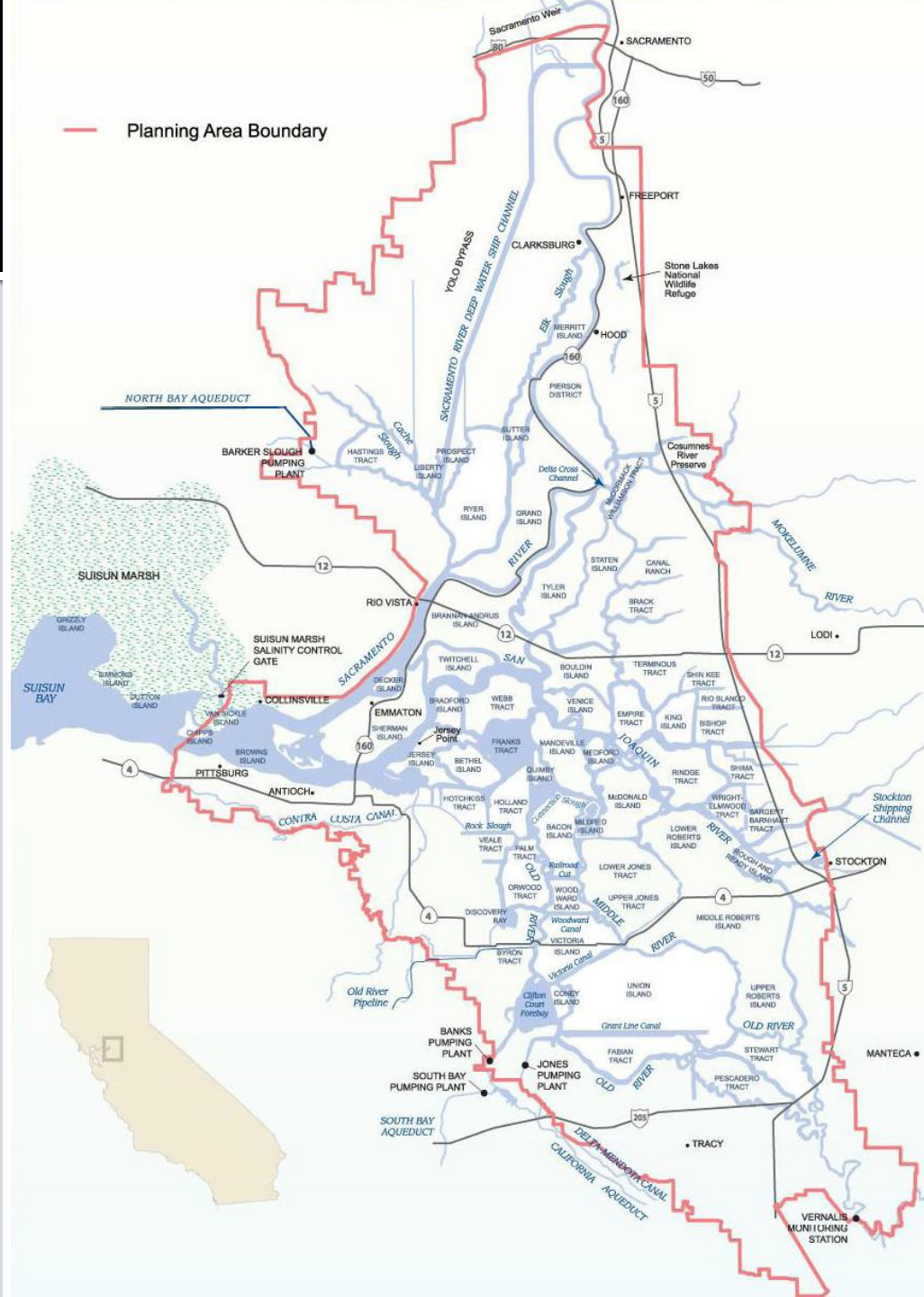
What is Bay Delta Conservation Plan

- Purpose
 - Recover endangered species and habitat in the Delta in a comprehensive, integrated package of measures that will meet the co-equal goals of ecosystem and water supply
 - Hybrid HCP/NCCP under state and federal ESAs
 - Collaborative planning process with extensive stakeholder involvement

Participants

- PREs: DWR, Reclamation, Water Contractors (MWD, SCVWD, Zone 7, KCWA, WWD, SLDMWA), Mirant
- Fish Agencies: CDFG, NMFS, USFWS
- NGOs: EDF, TNC, NHI, DOW, American Rivers
- Other interested participants: California Farm Bureau, CCWD, FWUA, NDWA
- Steering Committee: all of the above, chaired by Karen Scarborough, Undersecretary, Resources Agency

BDCP Planning Area



What the BDCP Will Do

- Provide the basis for durable permits under federal and state endangered species laws water project operation;
- Streamline permitting for projects covered by the plan;
- Provide new sources of funding and new methods of decision-making; and
- Provide for an adaptive management and monitoring program to:
 - guide decision-making during implementation,
 - be grounded in the best available science, and
 - enable the plan to adapt as conditions change.

What the BDCP Will Not Do

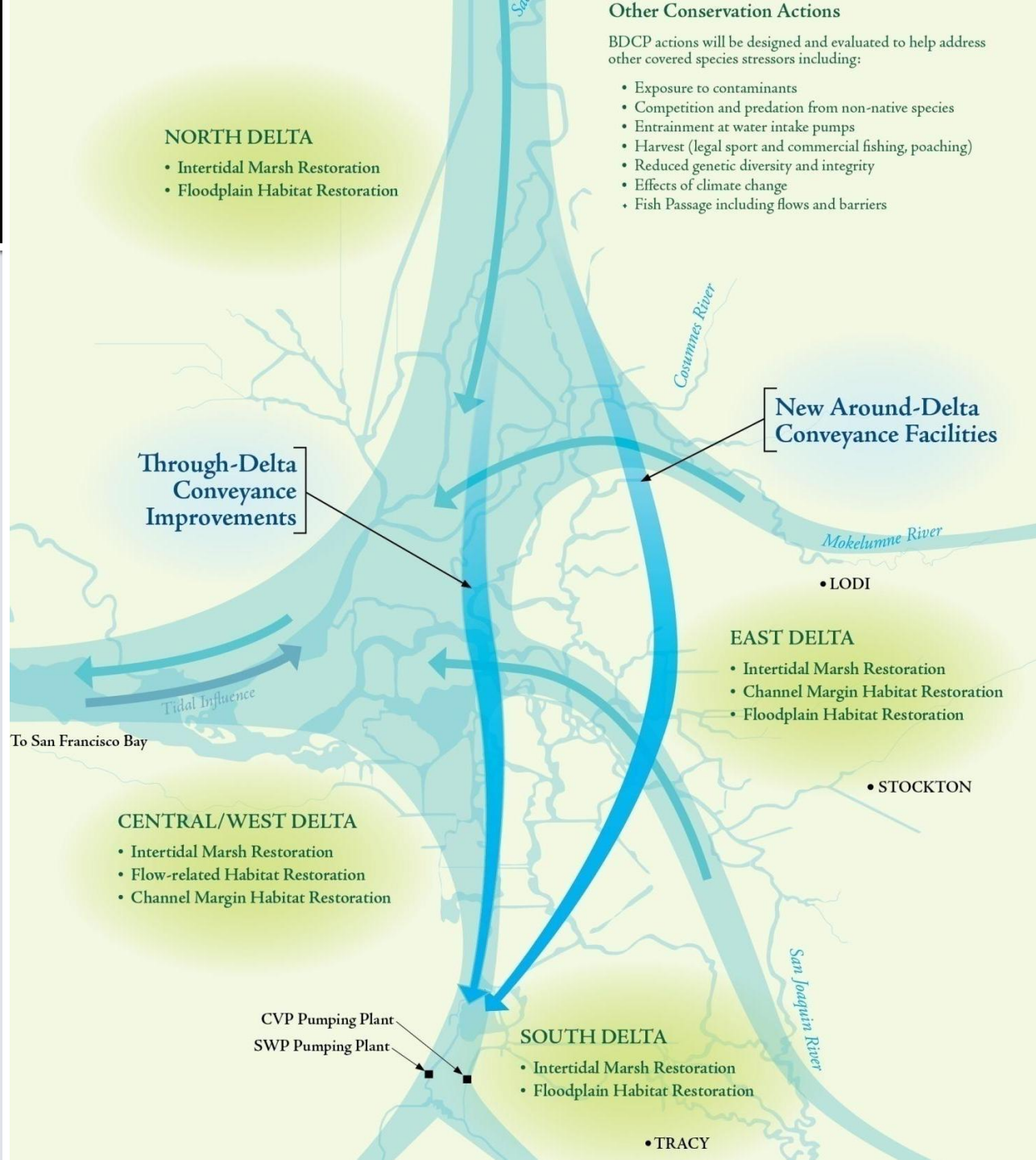
- Address all endangered or threatened species needs in the Delta;
- Address the needs of all covered species outside of the delta planning area;
- Eliminate other permitting requirements; or
- Solve all environmental challenges in the Delta.

Schedule

- Draft Conservation Strategy – end of 2008
- Draft Conservation Plan and EIR/EIS – end of 2009
- Permits – 2010

Current Status

- Points of Agreement on conveyance approach adopted Nov. 2007
 - “The Steering Committee agrees that the most promising approach for achieving the planning and conservation goals of the Planning Agreement includes a dual conveyance system, which we will further develop and evaluate in the planning process. The main new physical feature of this dual conveyance system includes the construction and operation of a new point (or points) of diversion in the north Delta on the Sacramento River and an isolated conveyance facility around the Delta.”
- Cornerstone elements of conservation strategy beginning to emerge

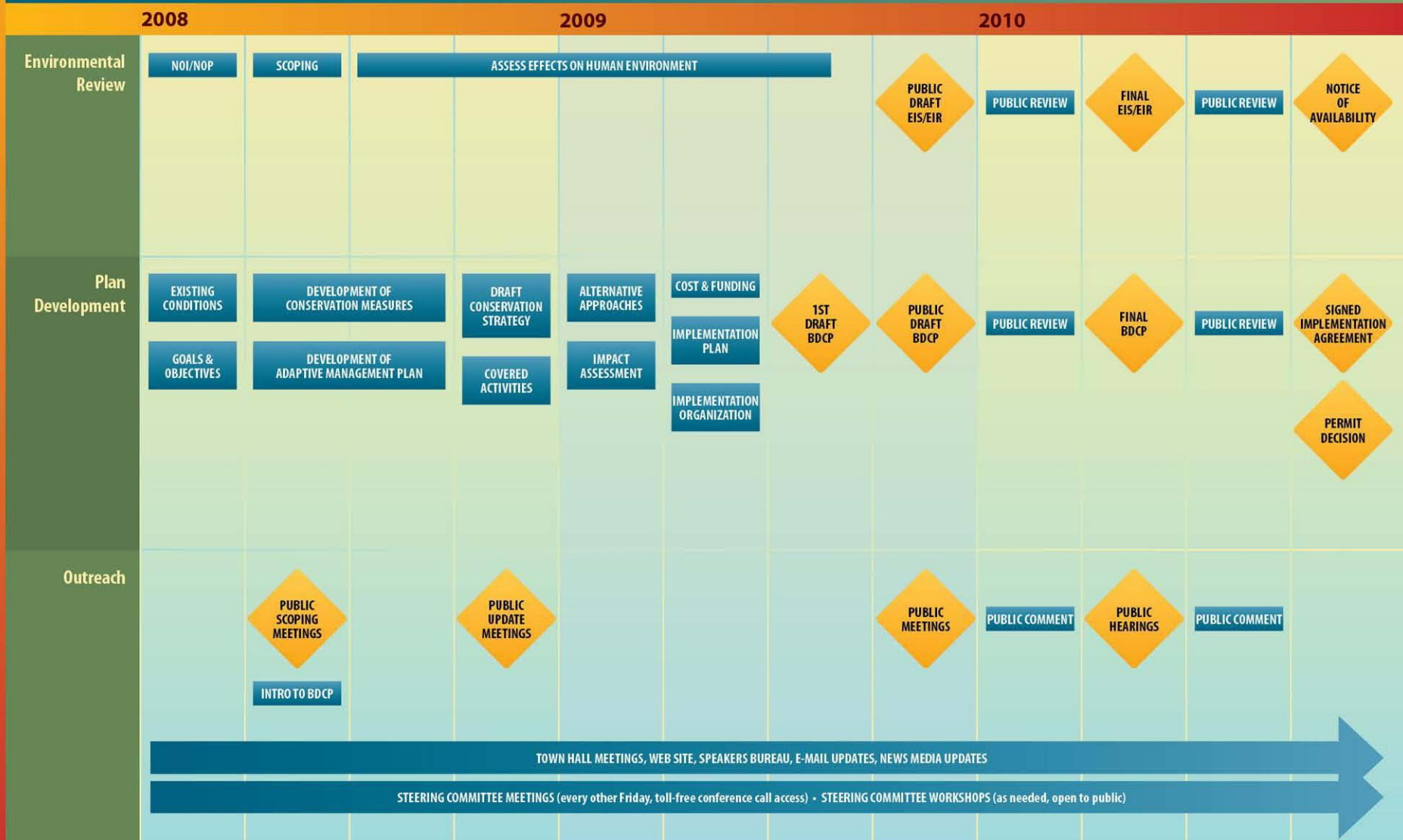


Desired Outcomes

- New Conveyance Facilities
 - Conservation Plan premised upon and including a new delivery system with a new diversion point in the northern Delta, and water conveyance around the Delta
- Support for package of conveyance and habitat restoration
- In long run: exports at close to pre-regulatory deliveries
- In near term: some regulatory relief based on early habitat actions developed as part of or in parallel with the BDCP

Reasons for Optimism

- Habitat Restoration Team and other Workgroups already embarked on developing conservation measures, with good rapport among participants
- Balanced Steering Committee and strong management team
- Strong commitment to success by Fishery Agencies



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [HTTP://WWW.RESOURCES.CA.GOV/BDCP/](http://www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp/)

Stay tuned...