Native fish populations crashing

Systemic problems: ecosystem degradation, flood risk, water quality problems

Unreliable Delta exports

The stakes are high: tremendous risk to California’s economy, environment, agriculture industry and Delta residents

Decades of conflict have yielded little progress

Many disparate voices call for a unified approach
Landmark changes to California water management:

- *Established the coequal goals – putting the protection of the ecosystem on equal footing with water supplies*
- *Required “reduced reliance on the Delta for future water supplies”*
- *Included bills on statewide conservation, groundwater monitoring, water rights enforcement, bond and ...*
- *Created 7-member independent Council with actual authority to achieve the coequal goals*
Meeting the coequal goals

- Builds on earlier efforts, including CALFED and Delta Vision
- Takes “Common sense approach” based on best available science
- Knits together the various regulations, policies and plans already in place, in progress, or planned
1) Increase water supply reliability

- Better water management throughout California, including more conservation, diversification of water supplies
- Improved Delta conveyance & expansion of groundwater and surface storage
2) Protect and enhance the ecosystem

- Update Delta water quality objectives
- Protect 6 high-priority restoration areas
- Recommendations to reduce ecosystem stressors
Meeting the coequal goals

3. Achieve in a manner that protects and enhances the values & unique, “evolving” characteristics of the Delta

- Locate new urban development in urban and urbanizing areas
- Protect rural lands for agriculture
- Designate the Delta as a National Heritage Area
- Protect historic communities
Reduce Risk

The Delta is inherently flood-prone ...

✓ Improve flood preparedness and emergency response
  • Delta Flood Risk Management District

✓ Reduce Delta exposure to flood risk
  • Enhance floodplains, create setback levees

✓ Set state priorities for investment in Delta flood protection by 2015
Next Steps

– Public review and comment on supplement to PEIR and draft regulations

Winter 2013
– Review comments to make any necessary revisions to final draft Delta Plan

Spring 2013
– PEIR comments and responses will be published in the Final Program EIR
– Council certifies EIR and adopts Delta Plan

Summer 2013
– Delta Plan becomes regulation after completion of state rulemaking process
Questions ...

www.deltacouncil.ca.gov