10/3/01

To DWR Water Plan Update
from Dennis Fox (- General Public)

E. Study Plan Evaluation Criteria Markup.

1. Catastrophic Vulnerability
   - Accidents are left out, not just spills but
   - Ecoterrorism at Edmenton Plant would have long term impacts until repaired.
   - Floods are oft a result of water transfers as ag fills in streambeds.
2. Economics
   - Ag sometimes pays for water not delivered until relief is given
   - Conversely valley urban pays much of ag water bill which will impact supply.

     Urban Conservation is not encouraged as it would negatively impact ag water pricing

     Resentment by urbanites may cease any payments to ag and the question arises are workers subsidizing their employers.

   International aspects. As the western pacific becomes more industrialized, it will be an exporter of finished products exchanged for commodities.

3. Energy. Hydroelectric is overfocused.

   Some small hydro is up for dam removal to facilitate fish passage. How will this juice be replaced.

   Locally coastal nuke plants are not co-operative with desalinization. The possibility is not considered.

The Estuarine Power Plants enlargement.
How consumptive of water are these plants
- Evaporation
- Water required to dilute cooling discharge to facilitate anadromous fish temperature requirements.

However, Plants are being sited in the Sacramento Valley. What are their possible water related benefits?
- Utilizing these plants propotionately higher than the estuarine ones during fish runs.
- Utilizing these plants heated discharge to ice and refuge areas to save consumption from increased times of germination/growth.
- Would there be possible uses for discharge into the Feather to raise the temperature at times for fish.

4 Environmental. - Should rephrase to impacts both beneficial and detrimental or positive and negative.
- Water quality may increase as it passes through wetland reserves in the San Joaquin.
- Saltgrass has shown the ability to volatilize Se
- Native vegetation will have long term benefits but may need irrigation to establish for the Plan's duration.
- Removing and preventing exotic establishment is important as they are 1) water consumptive and 2) impact water quality as chemical control is often necessitated on followed sites and those adjacent.

- Politically Correct native vegetation, which are not truly negative ie native turf grasses replacing cactus and scrub, does not save water.
- Native grasses in urban areas, and other appropriate plants can save enourmous water amounts. For example 6" of water per annum vs 36" where appropriate.

Refuge water can be considered often conjunctive use in its reduction ~~of~~ overdraft possibilities.

5 Environmental justice third party impacts have been discussed under catastrophic occurrances such as floods and economic issues of pricing.

- Water quality & reliability in often an issues in minority farming/worker communities.
- The Plan should have a paper as well as electronic element, distributed to many local facilities, such as libraries and be written to a level understood by minority citizens.
- I recommend seeking input from social justice advocates in the religious community as appropriate to specific area ethnicity.

Institutional - In keeping with Machado's stress on regionalism and Ruel's stress on developer water source designation, I would note that groundwater basins cross county lines of counties "zoning for dollars", ergo
- regional county committee should be considered to have veto

power over county planning decisions which impact them.

Of course this is a hot potato but at a minimum these counties should be in on the environmental review process.

Recreation. Waterfowl of course are to be considered in the document as well as upland and mammalian harvesting. These are also funding sources. Mammalian + upland funding is often tied to watersheds posessing reservoirs. This consumptive use would be preferable to development.
So, how much has sellation reduced reservoir capacities not only impacting recreation, but also available water supplies over the last half century?

Accomplishments - Again I would suggest a paper summary for public distribution. I would see this as having informational positives for all the work, generally unknown or unappreciated, that the members and staff have done.