

According to California Department of Waterways, prior to 2003 in an "average" water year like 2000, the annual fresh water flow on the Sacramento River into the Delta was 17,220 Thousand Acre Feet (TAF). Of that flow, 5,000 to 6,000 TAF of Sacramento River water was diverted through the Delta Cross Channel Gates and Georgiana Slough into the Mokelumne Rivers, to be exported to other areas of the state. 11,000 TAF or more per year continued down the natural or original waterways of Elk Slough, Sutter Slough, Steamboat Slough, and "Old River" or Sacramento River below Georgiana Slough past Ida Island (Isleton area), then past Rio Vista to the Suisun Bay and San Francisco Bay.

Documents used to compile the data can be found at:

Http://deltarevision.com/Sacramento-river-waterflow.html

Data compiled by N. Suard, Esq. Snug Harbor Resorts, LLC 11/2011

*Approximate TAF based on USGS conversion table

The new Delta Plan for 2012 proposes to export up to 15,000 cfs of Sacramento River water. That creates a capacity to export 10,859* TAF per year away from the Sacramento River and its tributaries, basically doubling the amount of water already exported from the Sacramento River. No new canal is needed-the increased export can be facilitated utilizing the Mokelumne River(s) conveyance or "Central Canal" system already built, with modifications. That leaves only about 6,000 TAF per year of fresh water flow to share between four natural waterways which have been splitting 11,000 TAF. Such a drastic reduction in fresh water flow will substantially degrade overall water quality on the noted North Delta waterways, especially Steamboat Slough and "Old River" Sacramento. It will also negatively affect prime farm lands of Grand Island, Ryer Island, Sutter Island, and Merritt Island at a minimum. Which islands and sloughs will get what water allocations?