Further TUCP and False River Barrier Comments

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Middle River, Wing Levee Road, 2013

State Water Resources Control Board
Sacramento, CA
Topics

• Contrary to Law: Delta Reform Act of 2009

• Some sections apply to all state agencies.

Along State Route 4 near Old River Bridge, 2013.
Delta Reform Act of 2009

- Coequal Goals
- Foundations of Water Management Policy
- Reducing Reliance on Delta Imports
- Delta as a Unique Place
Coequal Goals

**Water Code §85054.** "Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem.
Foundations

**Water Code §85023.** The longstanding constitutional principle of reasonable use and the public trust doctrine shall be the foundation of state water management policy and are particularly important and applicable to the Delta.
Foundations

• Reasonable use and public trust doctrines intertwined.

• Is it reasonable to privilege human water demand at the cost of perhaps multiple fish extinctions?

• No assessment of benefits of public trust resources yet performed to balance with human water demand.
Reduced Delta Reliance

**Water Code §85021.** The policy of the State of California is to reduce reliance on the Delta in meeting California's future water supply needs through a statewide strategy of investing in improved regional supplies, conservation, and water use efficiency.
Reduced Delta Reliance

Water Code §85021. (cont.) Each region that depends on water from the Delta watershed shall improve its regional self-reliance for water through investment in water use efficiency, water recycling, advanced water technologies, local and regional water supply projects, and improved regional coordination of local and regional water supply efforts.
Reduced Delta Reliance

• No assessment of reasonableness of state and federal water contractor demands pursuant to reduced Delta reliance policy.

• TUCP and False River Barrier contrary to this policy.
Water Code §85020. The policy of the State of California is to achieve the following objectives that the Legislature declares are inherent in the coequal goals for management of the Delta:

(a) **Manage the Delta's water and environmental resources and the water resources of the state over the long term.**

(b) **Protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, and agricultural values of the California Delta as an evolving place.**

... 

(e) **Improve water quality** to protect human health and the environment consistent with achieving water quality objectives in the Delta.
Unique Place & Water Quality

As Delta Outflow Falls and Barrier Installed, Salinity in South Delta Stabilizes to Benefit Exports

Sources: California Data Exchange Center; Restore the Delta.
Unique Place & Water Quality

As Delta Outflow Falls and Barriers Installed, Salinity Rises in Western Delta

Sources: California Data Exchange Center; Restore the Delta.
Unique Place & Water Quality

Source: DWR and USBR, TUCP.

Figure 9: Difference in Salinity - Barrier with TUCP Minus D-1641 (no barrier)
Unique Place & Water Quality

• Delta is a common pool resource, whether the state likes it or not.

• State should partner with Delta residents, not as conquering colonist shredding water quality plans and installing salinity barriers.
Delta Reform Act of 2009

Thank You