

Impact of Drought Emergency Measures on the Ground in the Delta

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State Water Resources Control Board
Sacramento CA

Topics

Drought Barriers

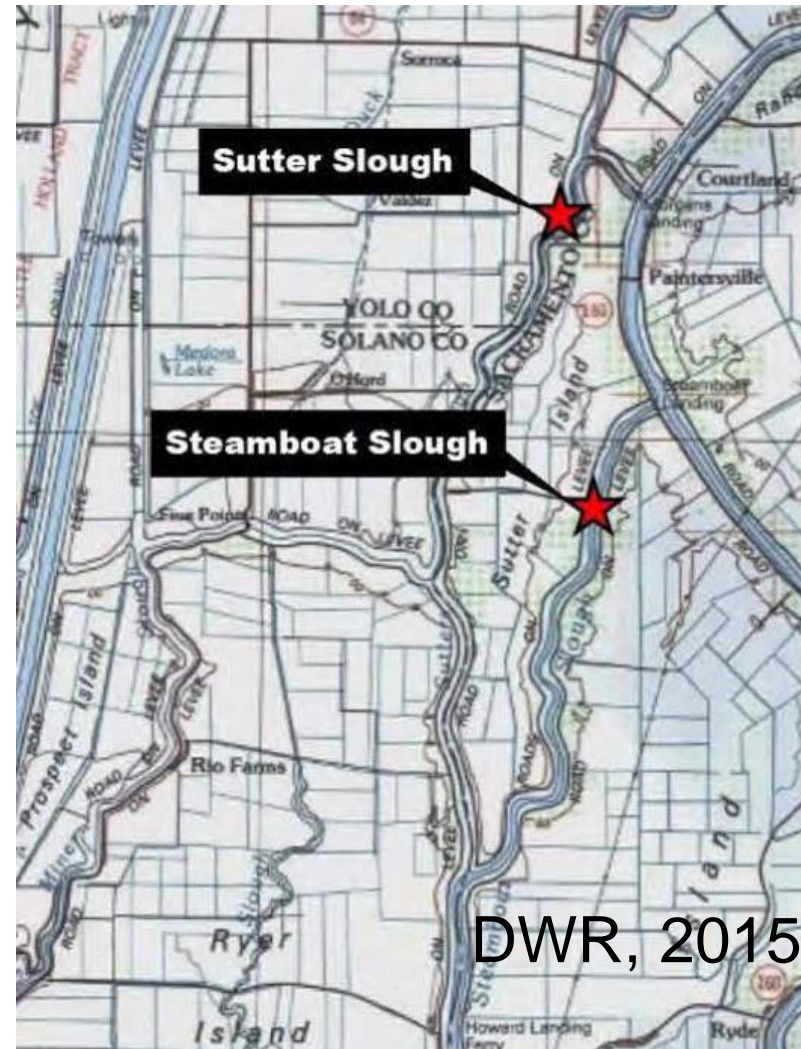
Giant Garter Snake

Drought Barrier

Giant Garter Snake

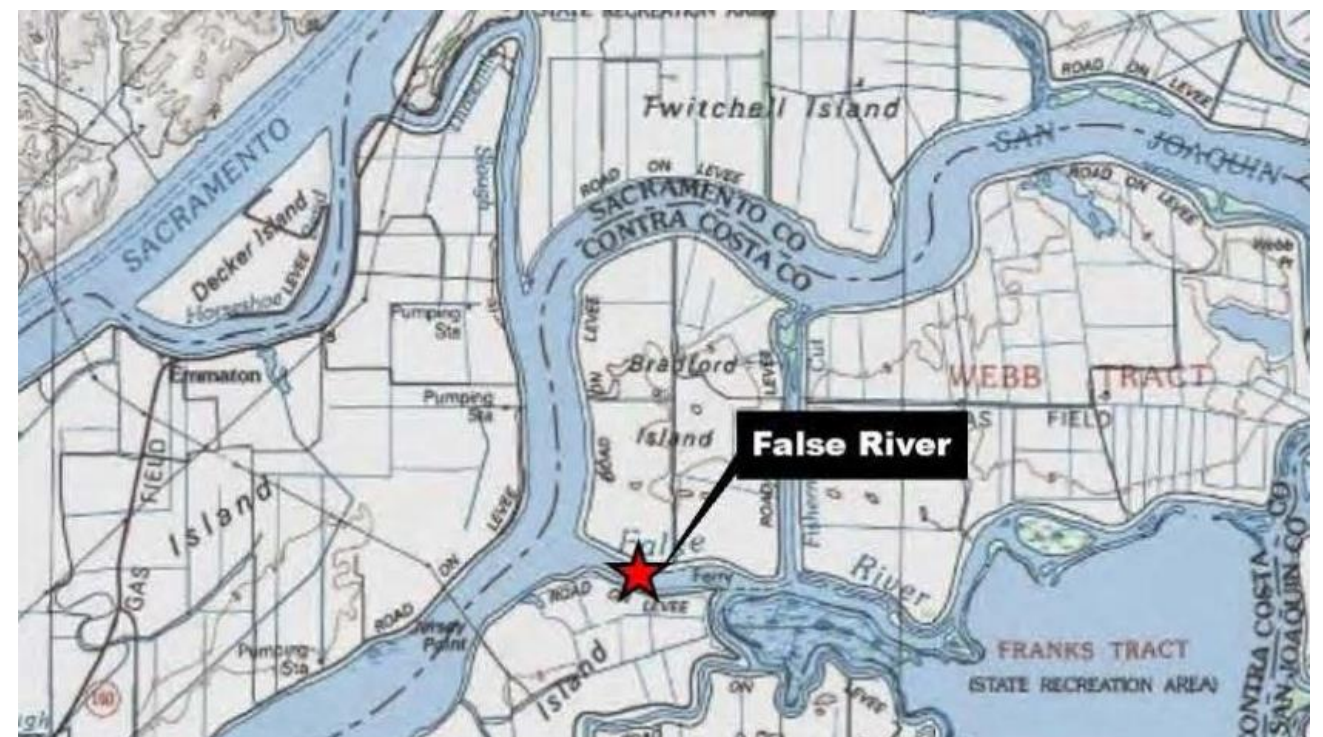


- DWR announced three barriers in late January 2015.
- Extended comment period from mid-Feb to March 30.



North Delta Barriers would harm many farmers, harm emigrating young salmon and resident fish.

DWR withdrew North Delta sites, settled on single barrier at False River.



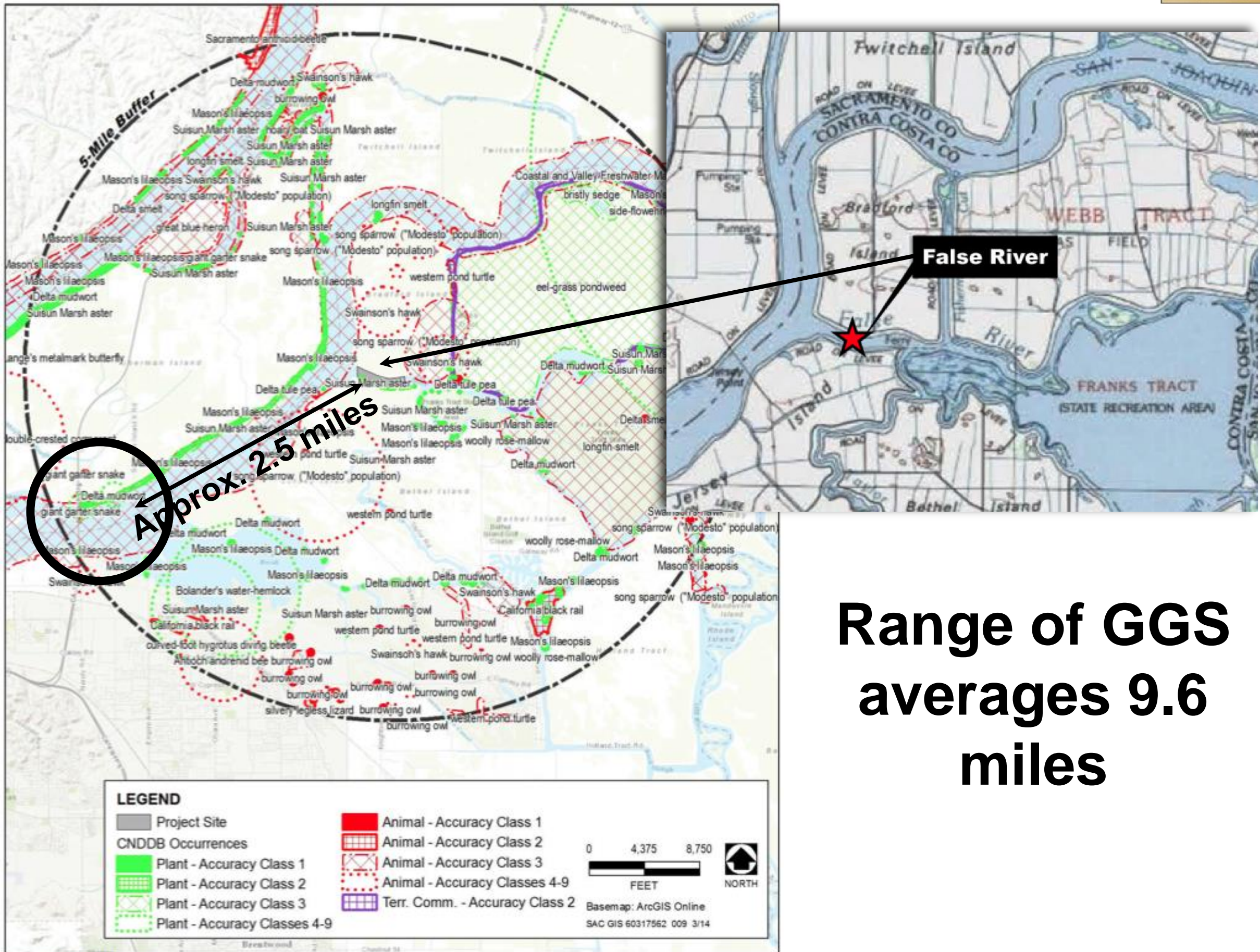
DWR's Purpose with Barriers

- Barriers physically limit tidal salts entering Delta channels—reduces water releases by SWP and CVP to control salinity.
- Barriers help improve quality of water SWP and CVP are able to export.

RTD Stance on Barriers

- **Imposes impacts of SWP and CVP mismanagement on Delta.**
- **Unknown impacts of TUCP on Delta smelt and other vulnerable native fish species.**
- **Potential impacts on vulnerable terrestrial species like giant garter snake.**

Drought Barrier Giant Garter Snake



Drought Barrier Giant Garter Snake



Previous mapping survey showed extensive giant garter snake habitat

Sherman Island

San Joaquin River

Bradford Island

Known GGS habitat

False River

Jersey Island



Barrier Site →

Jersey Island



Giant garter snake fencing near False River site.



401 Certification Concerns:

- Adequacy of field surveys.
- Poor job of public notice.
- Harm to endangered fish species from semi-permanent structures as “predation hotspots.”
- DWR started construction before 401 Cert or other permits issued.
- Mitigations not explicitly incorporated from DWR’s IS/MND in 401 Cert.
- RTD requests comment period extension for 401 Cert.

Thank you

