

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY TITLE: Policy Principles for the San Francisco Bay, Sacramento, San Joaquin Delta	NUMBER: 2006-01	PAGE: 1 of 3
APPROVED BY: Zone 7 Board	REVISION:	EFFECTIVE DATE: July 19, 2006

Whereas the existing activities upstream and downstream of the Delta, and within the Delta, are of value and importance to the State of California;

Whereas there is great risk to the Bay-Delta Environment and the Economy of the State of California if a long term Plan aimed at Delta Sustainability is not implemented;

Whereas the Zone 7 Board of Directors acknowledge that the preservation of a healthy Bay-Delta ecosystem, and the preservation of Delta water quality and water supply reliability are of principal importance and must be considered equal priorities;

Whereas the Zone 7 Board of Directors recognize that the quality and reliability of existing supplies from the Bay-Delta cannot be further reduced without undue negative effects on its customers and constituents;

Whereas the goals and objectives outlined in the CALFED Record Of Decision were intended to be a framework that would be adapted to the dynamic changes within the natural ecosystem and water supply system in the Delta;

Whereas decisions on Bay-Delta ecosystem restoration and maintenance programs and projects must be informed by ongoing research, and the best available science, and that through time the results of ecosystem restoration activities designed to promote or improve overall Delta health may be more or less effective than anticipated;

Whereas regulatory agencies are charged with protecting Delta biological resources; and

Whereas Zone 7 is dedicating significant financial and staff resources toward the restoration and maintenance of the Bay-Delta ecosystem;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Zone 7 Board of Directors does adopt the following policy principles for the preservation of a healthy Bay-Delta ecosystem that continues to support water quality and reliability needs in the State of California and is supported by a long-term and equitable financing plan.

1. The Zone 7 Board of Directors urge the Governor, in cooperation with the legislature and other critical parties, to continue to support actions and equitable financing plans that will provide for long-term sustainability of the Delta and assure that California is prepared for and can respond to a possible catastrophic event in the region.
2. Delta Sustainability discussions should include all sectors of the economy for which Delta reliability is critical, including water supply systems, highways and railroads, energy transmission and distribution, communications, and Delta landowners and land-use planners.
3. The Zone 7 Board of Directors support the development of science- based regional Conservation Plans in the Delta and in watersheds that drain through the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries to the San Francisco Bay-Delta as a way to obtain regulatory assurance, long-term funding, and to implement a comprehensive, long-term program for the restoration and maintenance of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and fisheries.
4. In order to ensure improved water quality, and the reliability and sustainability of current water supplies from the Delta, the Zone 7 Board of Directors are committed to providing their fair share of funding that would be required to implement an effective conservation plan and be dedicated solely to the restoration and maintenance of the Bay-Delta ecosystem.
5. The Zone 7 Board of Directors are committed to working with all other parties, including upstream water diverters, power generators, wastewater agencies, in-delta water users and dischargers, and upstream agricultural water users and dischargers whose upstream or in-Delta activities impact the Bay-Delta ecosystem, in a voluntary process to develop appropriate conservation plans adequately supported by a long-term fair share funding program for the purpose of Bay-Delta ecosystem restoration and maintenance.
6. The Zone 7 Board of Directors support the development of strong working relationships with the State and Federal regulatory agencies that manage or plan ecosystem restoration and maintenance programs or projects in the Delta.
7. Programs and projects to restore the integrity and safety of levees the Bay-Delta region should be implemented.
8. In return for the long-term program funding commitments made by all parties' agencies should facilitate implementation of projects to improve water quality and assure sustainable water supplies.

9. Zone 7 is committed to maximizing available and reasonable cost-effective alternative sources of water to meet new regional demands before consideration of additional supplies from the Bay-Delta; and will refrain from seeking additional supplies from the Bay-Delta unless it can be reasonably demonstrated that no other alternatives are reasonably available and that such additional exports will not cause harm to the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

HISTORY

Date	Action	Resolution
July 19, 2006	Adopted	07-2906